1875.

VICTORIA.

MINERAL STATISTICS OF VICTORIA

FOR THE YEAR

1874.

PRESENTED TO BOTH HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT BY HIS EXCELLENCY'S COMMAND.

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MEMORANDUM.

The Mineral Statistics for the year 1874 will be read and considered carefully by all who feel interested in the prosperity of the colony. The gross yield of gold, as measured by the exports and the gold minted, is less than that of 1873, but the average per man per annum is greater than it has been for many years past.

Quartz veins, giving more than 3 ozs. per ton, have been found at depths exceeding eight hundred feet, and more than one hundred and ninety feet below the level of the sea; and there is no doubt that when the numerous auriferous veins are more extensively developed the colony will find in these lasting stores of wealth.

ANGUS MACKAY,
Minister of Mines.

Office of Mines,
Melbourne, 15th February 1875.

MINERAL STATISTICS, 1874.

The officers of the Mining Department have carefully and diligently collected Statistics during the past year, and the accuracy of the information contained in this Report may be relied upon. Indeed the tables and statements speak for themselves. The several data were obtained from diverse sources; and the character of the gentlemen from whom the Department receives information is a sufficient guarantee that no avoidable mistakes can have been made. In addition to facts furnished by the Mining Registrars and Mining Surveyors, the managers of mines, the managers of the banks throughout the colony, and officers in the Imperial Service, have courteously rendered assistance; and there is no available check that has not been used in order to make the tables accurate and complete.

GOLD.

The estimates of gold raised during the years 1871, 1872, 1873, and 1874 are as follows :—

—	1871.		1872.		1873.		1874.	
	ozs.	dwts. grs.	ozs.	dwts. grs.	ozs.	dwts. grs.	ozs.	dwts. grs.
Exported, according to returns furnished by the Hon. the Commissioner of Trade and Customs ...	1,355,477	3 0	1,160,554	19 0	1,115,987	14 0	904,154	0 0
Received at the Melbourne branch of the Royal Mint	...		121,965	17 0	104,891	6 0	251,817	19 0
Raised, according to estimates made by the Mining Registrars ...	1,368,942	9 4	1,331,377	18 0	1,170,397	12 0	1,097,644	0 0
Purchased, from returns made by managers of banks and others ...	1,290,844	18 1	1,218,094	9 0	1,162,492	14 0	1,105,115	0 0

The decrease in the yield of gold, as measured by the quantities exported and received in the Mint, was, in 1872 as compared with 1871, 72,956 ozs. 7 dwts., in 1873 as compared with 1872, 61,641 ozs. 16 dwts., and in 1874 as compared with 1873, 64,907 ozs. 1 dwt.

When there was a duty imposed on the export of gold it was easy to compare the produce of one year with that of another; and though it is no longer possible to get results with the same facility, so much care is now exercised that those that are arrived at are perhaps as trustworthy as the figures given for the years when a duty was exacted.

Yield of gold from quartz, &c.

The yield of gold in 1874 from certain parcels of vein-quartz, mullock, pyrites, &c., respecting which the Registrars have obtained information, is as follows :—

——	Crushed or Treated.	Produce.	Average per Ton.
	Tons cwt.	ozs. dwts. grs.	ozs. dwts. grs.
Quartz	967,069 9	573,220 17 5	0 11 20·51
Quartz tailings, mullock, &c.	69,439 0	6,866 11 10	0 1 23·46
Pyrites, blanketings, &c.	6,725 15	18,941 14 13	2 16 7·82

These figures compare very favorably with those given in my Report for the year 1873.

As compared with 1873, there is a small decrease in the quantities of vein-quartz put through the mills, but the gross quantity of gold obtained from vein-quartz in 1874 was 6,006 ozs. 10 dwts. 3 grs. in excess of that got in 1873.

During the past five years there has been a gradual increase in the quantities of gold obtained from vein-quartz ; and the average yield per ton in 1874, notwithstanding that much of the quartz is now extracted from levels at great depths, is highly satisfactory. The figures for the past five years are as follows:—

Year.	Quartz Crushed.	Produce.	Average per Ton.
	Tons cwt.	ozs. dwts. grs.	ozs. dwts. grs.
1870 ...	908,526 17	448,683 16 10	0 9 21·05
1871 ...	924,704 14	484,303 3 5	0 10 11·39
1872 ...	954,571 2	568,381 17 14	0 11 21·81
1873 ...	991,673 19	567,214 7 2	0 11 10·55
1874 ...	967,069 9	573,220 17 5	0 11 20·51

The following table shows the quantities of quartz tailings, mullock, &c., crushed and treated, and the results obtained therefrom, during the last five years:—

Year.	Quartz Tailings, Mullock, &c., Crushed.	Produce.	Average per Ton.
	Tons cwt.	ozs. dwts. grs.	ozs. dwts. grs.
1870 ...	163,972 15	22,133 17 19	0 2 16·79
1871 ...	167,196 18	21,914 10 0	0 2 14·91
1872 ...	67,182 15	8,972 14 23	0 2 16·11
1873 ...	25,387 0	2,880 0 5	0 2 6·45
1874 ...	69,439 0	6,866 11 10	0 1 23·46

In 1870 and 1871 auriferous cement was included in the returns ; and the figures for these years cannot therefore be compared with those for 1872, 1873, and 1874.

During the past year there has been, contrary to expectation, a great increase in the quantities of quartz tailings, &c., treated. In the Tarrangower Division of the Castlemaine District the returns show that no less than 1,225 ozs. 15 dwts. 15 grs. of gold have been extracted from 30,858 tons of tailings, &c. In 1873 the quantity treated in this division was 1,290 tons only.

The quantities of pyrites, blanketings, &c., treated during the past five years, and the gold obtained, were as follows:—

Year.	Pyrites and Blanketings Treated.	Produce.	Average per Ton.
	Tons cwt.	ozs. dwts. grs.	ozs. dwts. grs.
1870 ...	3,180 5	8,503 7 13	2 13 11·42
1871 ...	3,562 9	9,113 19 11	2 11 4·00
1872 ...	5,008 18	13,636 8 0	2 14 10·83
1873 ...	5,568 0	15,887 17 8	2 17 1·64
1874 ...	6,725 15	18,941 14 13	2 16 7·82

These results are encouraging ; and it is evident that very great attention is being given to the vast heaps of tailings, &c., that accumulated when the methods of extracting gold were not as efficient as they are now. As quartz from the mine is now treated, quartz tailings and waste products—except those that abound in auriferous pyrites—are not likely to give profitable results by any method known at present ; but nearly all the old heaps will well repay the miner if skill and economy be used.

Quartz crushed.

Since the commencement of the publication of these Statistics information respecting the yield of gold from certain parcels of vein-quartz crushed and treated has been recorded. The record is necessarily incomplete, because it was impossible to obtain returns from all the mills. Many of them are very small, and at many no accounts are kept ; but figures were obtained where procurable, and the returns show that, up to the 31st December 1874, 11,441,638 tons 6 cwt. of vein-quartz have been crushed ; the yield of gold therefrom being 6,447,640 ozs. 6 dwts., or an average of 11 dwts. 6·49 grs. per ton.

The quantities of vein-quartz crushed, and the average yield of gold therefrom per ton, were, during the past five years, according to the information collected by the Mining Registrars in the several districts of the colony, as follows :—

District.	1870.		1871.		1872.		1873.		1874.	
	Quartz Crushed.	Average Yield of Gold per Ton.	Quartz Crushed.	Average Yield of Gold per Ton.	Quartz Crushed.	Average Yield of Gold per Ton.	Quartz Crushed.	Average Yield of Gold per Ton.	Quartz Crushed.	Average Yield of Gold per Ton.
	tons cwt.	ozs. dwts. grs	tons cwt.	ozs. dwts. grs.	tons cwt.	ozs. dwts. grs.	tons cwt.	ozs. dwts. grs.	tons cwt.	ozs. dwts. grs.
Ballarat ...	286,243 5	0 6 4·66	311,237 10	0 5 18·72	307,830 10	0 5 11·39	322,333 14	0 5 14·68	276,409 16	0 7 15 88
Beechworth	111,104 5	0 10 1·72	105,251 10	0 9 19·77	76,648 0	0 10 20·15	85,382 11	0 9 15·42	73,125 15	0 10 5·26
Sandhurst	211,542 0	0 11 13·83	186,790 10	0 12 10·60	292,630 10	0 17 2·64	317,429 0	0 15 13·86	323,493 0	0 14 6·35
Maryborough	72,422 16	0 8 9 52	48,941 14	0 9 16·77	35,158 0	0 11 14·63	40,509 5	0 10 9·20	31,903 0	0 9 10·77
Castlemaine	118,682 4	0 10 12·24	130,364 0	0 9 10·02	134,241 0	0 9 2·80	129,855 14	0 9 9·44	156,146 10	0 9 16·98
Ararat ...	75,374 2	0 12 11·63	105,188 12	0 15 15·07	70,201 14	0 17 13·00	60,733 0	0 18 20·97	63,757 0	0 18 9·80
Gippsland	33,158 5	1 5 5·17	36,930 18	1 12 0·62	37,861 8	1 5 21·88	35,430 15	1 7 16·28	42,234 8	1 3 12 79

It will be observed that there is a decrease in the quantities of quartz reported as having been crushed in the districts of Ballarat, Beechworth, and Maryborough, but the average yield per ton in all the districts is well maintained.

Tailings, mullock, &c.

During the eleven years ending 31st December 1874 the quantities of tailings, mullock, &c., treated were 1,663,033 tons, which yielded 299,117 ozs. 4 dwts. 2 grs. of gold, or an average of 3 dwts. 14·33 grs. per ton.

Pyrites, blanketings, &c.

The returns made to the Department show that during the six years ending 31st December 1874 the quantities of pyrites, blanketings, &c., operated on were 25,445 tons 4 cwt., yielding 70,551 ozs. 0 dwts. 14 grs., or an average of 2 ozs. 15 dwts. 10·88 grs. per ton.

Washdirt.

The quantity of washdirt puddled or sluiced during the year 1874, according to the returns made by certain companies and miners, was 1,037,345 tons 7 cwt. The

yield of gold therefrom was 54,725 ozs. 18 dwts. 7 grs., or an average of 1 dwt. 1·32 gr. per ton.

The Statistics show that during the past two years and nine months 3,351,467 tons 7 cwt. of washdirt yielded 214,767 ozs. 10 dwts. 12 grs. of gold, or an average of 1 dwt. 6·76 grs. per ton.

A very large quantity of washdirt was treated in the Fryer's Creek and Hepburn Divisions of the Castlemaine District during the year 1874. It is reported that 577,569 tons gave an average of 9·24 grs. of gold per ton.

In the St. Andrew's Division of the Castlemaine District 820 tons were treated, and the yield was 5 dwts. 2·91 grs. per ton. There are large tracts in this division, and in other parts of the colony, that would yield from £4 to £5 per man per week if worked by hydraulic sluicing. I have lately visited many claims where the yield was as high as this; and one of the miners assured me that he had work before him as remunerative as that above mentioned which would keep him employed for twenty years.

Cement.

The quantity of cement crushed during the year 1874, according to the information that the Registrars have been able to obtain, was 35,010 tons, which yielded 8,789 ozs. 9 dwts. 8 grs. of gold, or an average of 5 dwts. 0·50 gr. per ton.

There is a decrease this year in the quantities of cement treated. During the year 1873 there were 76,051 tons crushed, which yielded 14,926 ozs. 17 dwts. 6 grs., or an average of 3 dwts. 22·21 grs. per ton. The decrease in the districts of Maryborough and Castlemaine, where formerly from these auriferous deposits large quantities of gold were obtained, is remarkable.

From 1872 to 1874, inclusive, the returns made to the Department show that 180,361 tons have given an average of 4 dwts. 1·23 gr. per ton.

Number of miners.

The decrease in the mean number of miners employed during the year 1874 as compared with 1873 is 5,545, and as compared with 1872, 8,147.

The withdrawal of such large bodies of men from an occupation that, on the whole, gives good returns for the labor bestowed on it is the cause of the great reduction in the produce of gold. While the average earnings per man per annum continue to increase, the numbers engaged in gold mining decrease, and if there were not great inducements held out to miners to abandon mining operations, the yield of gold, instead of falling off, would now be greater than in former years. The miners have now better machinery and better appliances for saving gold than ever they had, and yet they are leaving the mines in order to engage in other pursuits.

The numbers employed in alluvial mining and quartz mining on the 31st December in each year during the past five years were as follows:—

District.	1870.			1871.			1872.			1873.			1874.		
	Alluvial Miners.	Quartz Miners.	Total.	Alluvial Miners.	Quartz Miners.	Total.	Alluvial Miners.	Quartz Miners.	Total.	Alluvial Miners.	Quartz Miners.	Total.	Alluvial Miners.	Quartz Miners.	Total.
Ballarat ...	11,278	3,097	14,375	10,998	2,894	13,892	9,323	3,262	12,585	8,220	3,168	11,388	7,307	2,750	10,057
Beechworth	7,114	2,070	9,184	6,462	1,657	8,119	5,988	1,477	7,465	5,557	1,371	6,928	5,194	1,222	6,416
Sandhurst...	4,101	4,893	8,994	3,373	5,455	8,828	3,066	5,130	8,196	2,899	5,078	7,977	2,737	4,526	7,263
Maryborough	10,279	1,917	12,196	10,202	1,844	12,046	8,509	2,054	10,563	8,484	1,880	10,364	6,978	1,809	8,787
Castlemaine	6,255	2,540	8,795	6,293	2,844	9,137	5,247	3,098	8,345	4,665	3,141	7,806	4,571	2,219	6,790
Ararat ...	2,055	653	2,708	2,293	868	3,161	2,021	945	2,966	1,996	1,167	3,163	2,124	1,197	3,321
Gippsland...	2,214	781	2,995	2,121	975	3,096	1,987	858	2,845	2,001	968	2,969	1,767	750	2,517
Totals ...	43,296	15,951	59,247	41,742	16,537	58,279	36,141	16,824	52,965	33,822	16,773	50,595	30,678	14,473	45,151

In reply to enquiries, Mr. Hayter, the Government Statist, has been good enough to furnish a return showing the number of hands employed in certain kinds

of labor in the years 1866 and 1874, and, excluding females, the figures are as follows :—

	Number of Hands Employed.	
	1866.	1874.
On farms	33,147	56,581
On squatting runs	6,799	5,128
In breweries	614	988
In flour mills	632	725
In manufactories, works, &c.... ...	7,628	18,921
Totals	48,820	82,343

In 1866 the mean number of miners employed on the goldfields was 73,577 ; so that while there has been an increase of 33,523 during the past nine years in the number of persons engaged in farming, manufactories, &c., there has been a decrease of 27,065 in the number of gold miners.

These figures, it appears to me, deserve attention.

The number of Chinese miners is diminishing. The figures for the past five years are as follows :— Chinese miners.

1870	15,079
1871	15,669
1872	14,158
1873	13,528
1874	12,180

During the year 1874 there were 12,056 Chinese miners employed in alluvial mining, and 124 in quartz mining. The Chinese miners do not readily embrace labors involving the employment of elaborate machinery. They confine themselves, as a rule, to the extraction of gold from the shallow alluviums, where their industry, untiring perseverance, and thrift, enable them to derive sure if but small profits.

The numbers of Chinese miners in the several mining districts are as follows :—

Ballarat	2,310
Beechworth	2,874
Sandhurst	764
Maryborough	2,487
Castlemaine	2,110
Ararat	900
Gippsland	735
Total	12,180

Dividing the value of the gold exported and minted amongst the mean number of miners employed throughout the year 1874, the average per man is £99 8s. 3·07d Average earnings of the miners.

There has been no higher average than this during the past eighteen years, except in 1868, when the quantity of gold exported was 1,657,498 ozs., and the average per man for the year £104 18s. 8·75d.

The averages for the past five years were as follows :—

Year.	Alluvial Miners. Earnings per man per annum.			Quartz Miners. Earnings per man per annum.			Average Earnings per man per annum.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1870	61	8	$5\frac{3}{4}$	133	3	$11\frac{3}{4}$	81	0	6·46
1871	65	17	$11\frac{1}{2}$	164	10	4	93	6	0·62
1872	65	0	$6\frac{3}{4}$	159	0	$6\frac{1}{4}$	93	17	1·47
1873	59	15	$9\frac{1}{2}$	164	15	$9\frac{3}{4}$	93	16	2·62
1874	58	9	$2\frac{1}{4}$	183	0	9	99	8	3·07

Machinery employed.

The following table shows the steam machinery employed in the gold mines of the colony during the past five years :—

—		Alluvial Mining. Steam Engines employed in Winding, Pumping, &c.		Quartz Mining. Steam Engines employed in Winding, Pumping, &c.		Stamp-heads (Crushing Quartz or other Vein-stuff).
		Number.	Aggregate Horse-power.	Number.	Aggregate Horse-power.	
1870	Ballarat ...	216	6,484	136	3,314	1,241
	Beechworth ...	50	806	71	953	1,084
	Sandhurst ...	37	542	161	2,742	1,444
	Maryborough ...	69	1,560	116	2,308	757
	Castlemaine ...	22	393	146	2,515	1,098
	Ararat ...	9	130	35	944	361
	Gippsland ...	...	...	46	796	537
		403	9,915	711	13,572	6,522
1871	Ballarat ...	219	6,424	132	3,163	1,197
	Beechworth ...	47	772	71	942	1,098
	Sandhurst ...	31	508	168	2,891	1,549
	Maryborough ...	71	1,633	106	1,966	734
	Castlemaine ...	27	411	143	2,540	1,109
	Ararat ...	9	128	37	966	397
	Gippsland ...	...	...	48	805	506
		404	9,876	705	13,273	6,590
1872	Ballarat ...	210	6,262	136	3,317	1,235
	Beechworth ...	43	702	73	847	1,069
	Sandhurst ...	20	298	224	4,014	1,412
	Maryborough ...	74	2,144	105	2,040	748
	Castlemaine ...	18	309	160	3,087	1,186
	Ararat ...	13	175	42	1,027	410
	Gippsland ...	1	6	42	786	500
		379	9,896	782	15,118	6,560
1873	Ballarat ...	197	5,929	131	3,385	1,194
	Beechworth ...	44	711	65	859	1,024
	Sandhurst ...	19	290	235	4,133	1,423
	Maryborough ...	71	2,087	109	2,017	830
	Castlemaine ...	14	301	165	3,296	1,141
	Ararat ...	15	241	38	1,032	397
	Gippsland ...	2	20	46	799	492
		362	9,579	789	15,521	6,501
1874	Ballarat ...	185	5,705	135	3,348	1,121
	Beechworth ...	45	730	69	896	1,014
	Sandhurst ...	19	300	232	4,216	1,428
	Maryborough ...	67	1,938	110	2,070	872
	Castlemaine ...	13	291	160	3,044	1,151
	Ararat ...	22	328	41	1,411	344
	Gippsland ...	2	25	41	564	501
		353	9,317	788	15,549	6,431

Tables Nos. 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, and 17 give full information respecting the machinery and appliances in use in the several mines of the colony.

The estimates of the value of the machinery and appliances in use on the several goldfields of the colony for the past five years, as made by the Mining Registrars, are as follows :— Value of machinery.

District.	1870.	1871.	1872.	1873.	1874.
	£	£	£	£	£
Ballarat ...	565,398	516,825	493,325	494,668	422,448
Beechworth ...	303,152	288,840	269,591	256,295	249,856
Sandhurst ...	435,645	454,330	488,190	503,398	505,580
Maryborough ...	294,305	272,372	311,891	310,895	297,939
Castlemaine ...	276,258	266,628	267,040	292,418	292,465
Ararat ...	108,818	117,612	120,425	122,611	170,724
Gippsland ...	145,320	144,278	148,112	150,903	139,924
Totals ...	2,128,896	2,060,885	2,098,574	2,131,188	2,078,936

The total area of the auriferous alluvial and quartz ground actually opened up is 1,063 square miles, and the number of distinct quartz reefs known to be auriferous is 3,398. These statements should be considered in connection with the information given in Tables Nos. 18 and 19. Area of auriferous ground, &c.

Many of the quartz mines are now worked at great depths; and there is, as far as can be gathered from the returns, no diminution in the yield of gold in the deeper levels. Deep shafts.

There is one shaft at Stawell 1,524 feet in depth, one 1,420 feet, one 1,260 feet, and two more than 1,000 feet in depth.

From the deeper levels in these mines the quartz has yielded as much as 3 ozs. 9 dwts. 2 grs. per ton.

At Clunes, one shaft is 1,012 feet in depth, and another 1,005 feet; and at Sandhurst, one shaft is 856 feet in depth, there are four exceeding 800 feet, and one exceeding 700 feet. The yield in these deep mines at Sandhurst, at the deepest levels, varies from 12 dwts. 22 grs. per ton to 1 oz. 2 dwts. 6 grs. per ton.

Full information respecting the deepest mines in the colony, the yields of gold therefrom, &c., is given quarterly in the published reports of the Mining Registrars.

The total area held as "claims" under the bye-laws of the several Mining Boards, and the area held under leases from the Crown, were, on the 31st December in each year, for the past five years, as follows :— Areas held as claims and under lease.

——	1870.	1871.	1872.	1873.	1874.
	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.
Total area held as "claims" ...	67,341 2 0	81,584 2 39	77,495 0 20	69,316 1 14	53,529 3 37
Total area held under leases	26,651 2 $5\frac{3}{5}$	25,383 2 $30\frac{3}{5}$	33,646 1 $8\frac{1}{10}$	31,569 2 34	26,601 1 $33\frac{3}{4}$

A portion, 3,858 a. 3 r. 6 p., of the land held as claims under the bye-laws in 1874 was not being worked, the holders protecting the same by obtaining certificates. Figures relating to the areas thus protected in years past are given in previous reports.

There have been issued since the Leasing Regulations came into force, 9,524 gold-mining leases, for an aggregate area of 175,868 a. 2 r. $20\frac{3}{4}$ p. A great number of these have been declared void for the non-fulfilment of the labor covenants of the leases, and others have been surrendered or have lapsed, owing to the expiration of the terms for which they were granted.

Labor employed on leased lands.

There were 1,996 gold-mining leases in force on the 31st December 1874, and returns have been received relating to 1,951 of these, showing the number of men actually employed on the areas demised. The following statement, compiled from records in the Department of Mines, gives the results for each district :—

Districts.	Number of Leases.	Area.	Number of Men, as per covenants.	Number of Men actually employed, as per returns.
		A. R. P.		
Ballarat	121	4,350 0 25	2,471	2,259
Beechworth	202	3,221 0 11	1,711	789
Sandhurst	825	6,255 0 3	4,225	3,766
Maryborough	287	5,286 0 23	2,652	1,116
Castlemaine	296	3,494 1 17	1,636	1,446
Ararat	122	2,199 0 12	876	1,070
Gippsland	98	1,650 1 16	806	529
Totals	1,951	26,456 0 27	14,377	10,975

Value of claims and leased lands.

The estimates of the value of the lands held under the bye-laws and under leases from the Crown in the mining districts of the colony are, for the past five years, as follows :—

—	1870.	1871.	1872.	1873.	1874.
	£	£	£	£	£
Estimated value of claims ...	7,684,178	12,275,046	11,820,139	12,431,241	7,424,024

Revenue derived from the goldfields.

The revenue derived directly from the goldfields and mineral districts, exclusive of fees, fines, and forfeitures, was during the last five years as follows :—

—	1870.	1871.	1872.	1873.	1874.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Miners' rights ...	9,934 0 0	10,075 15 0	8,645 0 0	8,199 10 0	6,707 15 0
Business licenses ...	3,206 12 6	2,277 14 2	1,666 15 10	1,702 0 0	1,433 12 6
Rents for leases of auriferous mineral lands	24,307 7 0	22,333 16 3	30,363 3 10	15,910 16 0	13,805 0 1
Water-right and searching licenses	1,046 10 0	919 4 7	1,026 5 9	1,013 5 0	1,142 15 0
Totals ...	38,494 9 6	35,606 10 0	41,701 5 5	26,825 11 0	23,089 2 7

On the 17th December 1872 the rent of lands held under gold-mining leases was reduced from One pound sterling per acre per annum to Ten shillings per acre per annum.

Water-rights.

On the 31st December 1874 there were 169 water-right licenses in force. The area held under the licenses was 1,316 a. 2 r. 34 p.; the aggregate length of the races was 394 miles 43 $\frac{5}{100}$ chains; the maximum quantity of water diverted per diem was 193,188,855 gallons; the aggregate area of the reservoirs constructed was 91 a. 0r. 26 p.; the capacity of the same 201,364,770 gallons; and the aggregate sum payable per annum as rent was £966.

There were 11 water-right licenses issued during the 1874, under which the licensees were authorized to divert 48,624,000 gallons of water per diem.

The aggregate length of all the water-races used for mining purposes was, on the 31st December 1874, 2,102 miles 61 chains, and the approximate cost of constructing the same was £263,886, being at the rate of £125 9s. 10$\frac{3}{4}$d. per mile.

Tables 41, 42, 43, and 44 give full information respecting the water-races constructed for gold-mining purposes in the several districts and divisions of the colony.

Information respecting the kinds and quantities of timber used for mining purposes in each district of the colony, and the cost of the same, is given in Table No. 54. Cost of timber.

The value of the timber used, during the past five years, as given by the several Mining Registrars, was as follows:—

—	1870.	1871.	1872.	1873.	1874.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Value of timber used for mining purposes	444,886 14 1	443,163 6 9	467,320 12 0	480,691 10 0	441,731 7 0

The prices paid for crushing quartz and cement are given in Table 30. In the district of Castlemaine the price per ton is as low as Two shillings; in the Ballarat district from Two shillings and sixpence to Fifteen shillings; and the highest price paid, Twenty-eight shillings per ton, is in the district of Beechworth Cost of crushing.

The wages paid for labor, the prices of all materials used in mining, and information relating to the weight and cost of stamp-heads, and shanks or lifters; the heights the stamp-heads fall; the number of strokes per minute; the quantity of quartz crushed per head per diem; the number of holes per square inch in the gratings; the quantities of water used per stamp-head, and the quantities of mercury used and lost per stamp-head, are given in Tables 52, 53, and 55. Wages paid for labor, &c.

An account of the receipts, disbursements, and balances in hand of sums lodged with the Wardens' Clerks in the several mining districts, as deposits under the Gold and Mineral Lease and Water-right License Regulations, is given in Table 45. The deposits received during the year 1874 amounted to £3,661 19s. 7d.; the disbursements to £6,688 10s. 3½d.; and the amount of the balances on hand on the 31st December 1874 was £2,108 5s. 6½d. Receipts and disbursements, &c. under leasing regulations.

Table 47 shows the quantities of gunpowder in stock in the several magazines on the goldfields on the 1st January 1874; the quantities issued during the year; and the quantities in stock on the 31st December 1874. Gunpowder, &c., used.

The number of mining companies registered during the year 1874 was 143; the number of shares was 1,968,802; and the nominal capital £1,592,213. Companies registered.

Eight companies were wound up during the year, the aggregate nominal shares being 214,000, and the aggregate nominal capital £111,000.

The number of companies registered during the past five years, with the number of shares and the nominal capital, was as follows:—

Year.	Number of Companies.	Number of Shares.	Nominal Capital.
			£ s. d.
1870 ...	499	8,443,717	6,021,517 0 0
1871 ...	1,206	27,076,782	16,989,435 0 0
1872 ...	522	11,160,843	6,813,071 0 0
1873 ...	385	6,911,424	5,059,857 15 0
1874 ...	143	1,968,802	1,592,213 0 0

During the year 1870 twenty-three companies were wound up, with 70,210 shares and a nominal capital of £289,040; in 1871 two companies were wound up, with 6,300 shares and a nominal capital of £8,600; no companies were wound up

during the year 1872 ; five companies were wound up in 1873, with 116,200 shares and a nominal capital of £51,850 ; and eight companies were wound up in 1874, with 214,000 shares and a nominal capital of £111,000.

New goldfields.

Only four applications were lodged during the year for rewards for the discovery of new goldfields, and the Board appointed to investigate such claims dealt with these. One—that for the discovery of the Avoca Forest goldfield—was considered to be deserving of a reward. The Board recommended that the sum of £140 should be given to the discoverers, and the recommendation was approved of, and the money was voted by Parliament and paid. There is now no difficulty in dealing with such claims. As soon as an application is made, enquiries are instituted, and the facts connected with it are ascertained.

Examination of mining surveyors.

Four candidates presented themselves for examination in mine and land surveying during the year, and one passed.

Business of the Department.

The amount of business transacted in the Department during the years 1873 and 1874 may be estimated from the following figures :—

——	1873.	1874.
Number of letters received	23,922	25,190
Correspondence referred from other departments, inwards	9,793	13,478
References outwards	9,538	13,812
Number of accounts received	6,016	5,507
Number of accounts passed	5,995	5,198
Number of schedules passed (in triplicate)	555	484
Number of returns received	6,028	6,175
Number of letters outwards	32,866	33,346

Number of applications for leases and licenses.

The number of applications for leases and licenses dealt with during the year 1874 was as follows :—

Applications lodged for gold-mining leases	367
Applications lodged for mineral leases	3
Applications lodged for water-right licenses	12
Applications lodged for gold-mining leases on reserved lands	5
Total number of applications for leases and licenses dealt with (granted, refused, or abandoned), as notified in the *Government Gazette*	470

The number of leases declared void during the year for non-fulfilment of the labor covenants, or because the rents were not paid, was 839, for an aggregate area of 13,259a. 0r. 39½p.

Attendance of officers.

Mr. Richard Francis, the Chief Clerk, has prepared the usual annual statement, from which it appears that the overtime given by the officers of the Department in Melbourne was $139\frac{1\,0}{3\,3}$ weeks, and the total period of absence from duty was $168\frac{1}{3}$ weeks.

METALS AND MINERALS OTHER THAN GOLD.

Silver.—180 tons of silver ore were raised during the year, and 11,906 ozs. of silver were obtained, of which 11,146 ozs. 5 dwts. were parted from gold smelted at the Mint.

Tin.—The exports of tin ore during the year were 112 tons 14 cwt., and of tin 86,016 lbs.

Copper.—10 tons 2 cwt. of copper were exported.

Antimony.—There were raised during the year 588 tons 7 cwt. 3 qrs. 9 lbs. of antimony ores ; and 224 tons 7 cwt. of ore and 231 tons of antimony regulus were exported.

Lead.—The quantity of ore raised during the year was 111 tons.

Iron.—Of iron ore 130 tons 10 cwt. were raised.

Coal and Lignite.—The quantity of coal reported as having been raised was 2,909 tons, and the quantity of lignite raised, 750 tons.

Flags and Slates.—1,961 tons 2 cwt. of flagging and 85 tons of slates were raised.

Full information relative to the exploration of mines where metals and minerals other than gold are raised is given in the tables.

The number of miners employed during the quarter ending 31st December 1874 in mining for metals and minerals other than gold was as follows :—

Districts.	Mining Surveyors and Registrars' Divisions and Subdivisions.	Silver Miners.	Argentiferous Galena Miners.	Tin Miners.	Copper Miners.	Antimony Miners.	Ironstone Miners.	Coal Miners.	Lignite Miners.	Kaolin Miners.	Slate and Flag Miners.	Totals.
Ballarat ...	Ballarat	...	...	...	...	...	27	...	...	...	...	27
	Steiglitz	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	...	...	30
Beechworth ...	Yackandandah ...	...	...	72	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	72
Sandhurst ...	Sandhurst	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
	Heathcote	...	...	...	...	34	...	...	...	...	...	34
Maryborough ...	St. Arnaud	70	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	70
Castlemaine ...	Castlemaine	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	112	112
	St. Andrew's ...	...	...	...	...	21	...	104	..	4	...	129
Ararat ...	Pleasant Creek ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Gippsland ...	Mitchell River ...	...	18	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
	Donnelly's Creek ...	...	...	...	21	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
	Totals	70	18	72	21	56	27	104	30	4	114	516

The total numbers thus engaged during the past five years were as follows :—

1870	248	1873	388
1871	198	1874	516
1872	358		

The increase year by year is small, but on the whole satisfactory. No account is taken in these returns of the numbers of persons engaged in reducing works in Melbourne.

The following is an estimate of the Metals and Minerals raised in the colony from the first discovery of the goldfields to 31st December 1874 :—

Gold.—Quantity exported and minted in the colony from the date of the first discovery to the 31st December 1874, 44,414,177 ozs. 4 dwts.,* at £4 per oz. £177,821,125

Silver.—Ore raised, 12,468 tons.
Produce of silver from ore treated, 25,479 ozs. 8 dwts., at 5s. 6d. per oz. 7,007
Silver parted from gold, 11,146 ozs. 3 dwts. (value already included).

Tin.—Ore exported,	2,601 tons 2 cwt.	£192,936	
„	92 tons 9 cwt., at £70 per ton	6,471	
„	177 tons 10 cwt., at £52 10s. per ton	9,318	
„	269 tons 1 cwt.	17,551	
„	146 tons 15 cwt.	9,524	
„	250 tons	17,500	
„	294 tons 19 cwt	20,775	
„	174 tons 16 cwt.	11,301	
„	112 tons 14 cwt.	6,720	
Tin exported,	3 tons 12 cwt. 3 qrs. 12 lbs., at £140 per ton ...	510	
„	7 tons 16 cwt.	729	
„	14 cwt., at £140 per ton	98	
„	15 cwt.	157	
„	7 tons 19 cwt.	1,097	
„	41 tons 10 cwt.	5,439	
„	48 tons 16 cwt.	5,760	
„	38 tons 8 cwt.	3,628	
Tin consumed in Victoria,	163 tons...	16,333	
			325,847

* From returns furnished by the Honorable the Commissioner of Trade and Customs and the Deputy Master of the Mint, and inclusive of 1,267,241 ozs., which, according to the Registrar-General's tables, were produced in Victoria in 1852-5, but passed through the Customs of New South Wales, Tasmania, and South Australia, and not recorded in Victorian tables. The quantities used and manufactured in the colony cannot be estimated.

Copper.—Ores raised, about 1,255 tons.		
Smelted, 31 tons 7 cwt., at £112 per ton	3,511	
Regulus, 70 tons 16 cwt.	1,969	
Rough copper, 10½ tons	320	
Ore exported, 5 cwt.	10	
Copper exported, 10 tons 7 cwt.	745	
		£6,555
Antimony.—Ore raised, 2,955 tons 15 cwt. 26 lbs.	32,102	
„ 435 tons, at £6 per ton	2,610	
„ 272 tons, at £9 per ton	2,448	
„ 510 tons, at £7 per ton	3,570	
„ 199 tons, at £4 per ton	796	
„ 1,661 tons 3 cwt.	13,669	
„ 1,575 tons 1 cwt.	12,600	
„ 1,573 tons 15 cwt., at £6 per ton	9,442	
„ 1,428 tons 3 cwt., at £6 5s. per ton	8,926	
„ 588 tons 8 cwt., at £8 per ton	4,707	
		90,870
Lead.—Ore raised, 100 tons, at £6 per ton...	600	
„ 45 tons	270	
„ 100 tons	600	
„ 162 tons, at £10 per ton	1,620	
„ 111 tons, at £10 per ton	1,110	
		4,200
Iron.—Ore raised, 182 tons	...	944
Coal.—2,043 tons, at £1 10s. per ton	3,064	
504 tons, at £1 12s. per ton	806	
2,909 tons, at £1 10s. per ton	4,363	
		8,233
Lignite.—1,992 tons, at 17s. 6d.	1,742	
763 tons, at 5s.	191	
750 tons, at 5s.	187	
		2,120
Kaolin.—1,757 tons, at £4 per ton	7,028	
50 tons 2 cwt., at £5 10s. per ton	275	
25 tons 12 cwt., at £5 10s. per ton	141	
		7,444
Flagging.—78,660 square yards	22,370	
1,500 square yards	525	
3,918 tons	6,206	
1,738 tons	2,607	
1,960 tons	980	
1,961 tons	2,941	
		35,629
Slates.—11,000, at £8 per 1,000...	88	
160 tons, at £4 per ton	640	
85 tons, at £2 10s. per ton	212	
		940
Magnesite.—6¼ tons, at £2 per ton		12
Diamonds.—About 104 carats, at an average of say £1 per carat		104
Sapphires, &c.—Numbers cannot be estimated, say		571
Total		£178,311,601

The prices of the several ores, &c., have been obtained from persons best acquainted with the market value of them.

R. BROUGH SMYTH,
Secretary for Mines.

Office of Mines,
Melbourne, 15th February 1875.

TABLES.

No. 1.

SUMMARY.

NUMBER of MINERS employed in the several MINING DISTRICTS for each Quarter during the Year 1874.

Quarter.	BALLARAT.			BEECHWORTH.			SANDHURST.			MARYBOROUGH.		
	Alluvial.	Quartz.	Totals.	Alluvial.	Quartz.	Totals.	Alluvial.	Quartz.	Totals.	Alluvial.	Quartz.	Totals.
First Quarter, ending March 31st	7,866	2,803	10,669	5,392	1,293	6,685	2,850	5,005	7,855	7,487	1,792	9,279
Second Quarter, ending June 30th	7,503	2,791	10,294	5,379	1,278	6,657	2,681	4,782	7,463	6,795	1,892	8,687
Third Quarter, ending Sept. 30th	7,540	2,879	10,419	5,372	1,289	6,661	2,701	4,507	7,208	6,807	1,919	8,726
Fourth Quarter, ending Dec. 31st	7,307	2,750	10,057	5,194	1,222	6,416	2,737	4,526	7,263	6,978	1,809	8,787

Quarter.	CASTLEMAINE.			ARARAT.			GIPPSLAND.			GRAND TOTALS.		
	Alluvial.	Quartz.	Totals.	Alluvial.	Quartz.	Totals.	Alluvial.	Quartz.	Totals.	Alluvial.	Quartz.	Totals.
First Quarter, ending March 31st	4,720	2,985	7,705	2,051	1,171	3,222	1,809	945	2,754	32,175	15,994	48,169
Second Quarter, ending June 30th	4,595	2,658	7,253	2,218	1,336	3,554	1,780	800	2,580	30,951	15,537	46,488
Third Quarter, ending Sept. 30th	4,653	2,489	7,142	2,172	1,315	3,487	1,838	758	2,596	31,083	15,156	46,239
Fourth Quarter, ending Dec. 31st	4,571	2,219	6,790	2,124	1,197	3,321	1,767	750	2,517	30,678	14,473	45,151

NOTE.—The mean number of miners employed during the year was 46,512; and the total quantity of gold exported and received at the Mint was 1,155,971 ozs. 19 dwts., which, at £4 per oz., gives £99 8s. 3·07d. per man per annum. The rate per man per annum for 1873 was £93 16s. 2·62d.; for 1872, £93 17s. 1·47d.; for 1871, £93 6s. 0·62d.; for 1870, £81 0s. 6·46d.; for 1869, £79 7s. 0·87d.; for 1868, £104 18s. 8·75d.; for 1867, £87 1s. 6·91d.; for 1866, £80 8s. 3·87d.; for 1865, £74 4s. 2·09d.; for 1864, £74 1s. 9·29d.; for 1863, £70 9s. 0·42d.; for 1862, £67 14s. 5·11d.; for 1861, £74 15s. 11d.; and for 1860, £79 9s. 3·07d.

No. 2.

SUMMARY.

NUMBER of MINERS employed in the several MINING DISTRICTS during the Quarter ended 31st December 1874.

Mining Districts.	ALLUVIAL MINERS.		QUARTZ MINERS.		TOTALS.		Grand Totals.
	European.	Chinese.	European.	Chinese.	European.	Chinese.	
Ballarat District	5,012	2,295	2,735	15	7,747	2,310	10,057
Beechworth District	2,339	2,855	1,203	19	3,542	2,874	6,416
Sandhurst District	2,023	714	4,476	50	6,499	764	7,263
Maryborough District	4,497	2,481	1,803	6	6,300	2,487	8,787
Castlemaine District	2,470	2,101	2,210	9	4,680	2,110	6,790
Ararat District	1,249	875	1,172	25	2,421	900	3,321
Gippsland District	1,032	735	750	...	1,782	735	2,517
Totals	18,622	12,056	14,349	124	32,971	12,180	45,151

No. 3.

NUMBER of MINERS employed in the Mining District of BALLARAT during the Quarter ended 31st December 1874.

Mining Surveyors and Registrars' Divisions and Subdivisions.	ALLUVIAL MINERS.		QUARTZ MINERS.		TOTALS.		Grand Totals.
	European.	Chinese.	European.	Chinese.	European.	Chinese.	
Central Division	1,528	258	1,084	...	2,612	258	2,870
Southern Division	466	500	52	...	518	500	1,018
Buninyong Division	590	90	140	...	730	90	820
Smythesdale Division	1,020	600	20	...	1,040	600	1,640
Creswick Division	1,120	450	400	...	1,520	450	1,970
Gordon Subdivision	6	...	190	12	196	12	208
Steiglitz Subdivision	110	130	205	...	315	130	445
Blackwood Division and Blue Mountain South Subdivision	160	267	640	3	800	270	1,070
Ballan Subdivision	12	...	4	...	16	...	16
Totals	5,012	2,295	2,735	15	7,747	2,310	10,057

No. 4.

NUMBER of MINERS employed in the Mining District of BEECHWORTH during the Quarter ended 31st December 1874.

Mining Surveyors and Registrars' Divisions and Subdivisions.	ALLUVIAL MINERS.		QUARTZ MINERS.		TOTALS.		Grand Totals.
	European.	Chinese.	European.	Chinese.	European.	Chinese.	
Beechworth Division	1,017	875	96	...	1,113	875	1,988
Yackandandah Division	280	360	93	...	373	360	733
Indigo Division	259	142	44	...	303	142	445
Buckland Division	97	1,193	392	1	489	1,194	1,683
Alexandra Subdivision	160	30	140	...	300	30	330
Dry Creek Subdivision	60	100	8	...	68	100	168
Benalla Subdivision	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gaffney's Creek Subdivision	60	12	80	18	140	30	170
Wood's Point Subdivision	143	12	100	...	243	12	255
Big River Subdivision	73	6	40	...	113	6	119
Mitta-mitta Division	90	75	...	...	90	75	165
Jamieson Subdivision	100	50	210	...	310	50	360
Totals	2,339	2,855	1,203	19	3,542	2,874	6,416

No. 5.

NUMBER of MINERS employed in the Mining District of SANDHURST during the Quarter ended 31st December 1874.

Mining Surveyors and Registrars' Divisions and Subdivisions.	ALLUVIAL MINERS.		QUARTZ MINERS.		TOTALS.		Grand Totals.
	European.	Chinese.	European.	Chinese.	European.	Chinese.	
Sandhurst Division	1,620	610	3,969	50	5,589	660	6,249
Kilmore Division	40	20	18	...	58	20	78
Heathcote Division and Waranga South Subdivision	229	40	363	...	592	40	632
Waranga North Subdivision	134	44	126	...	260	44	304
Totals	2,023	714	4,476	50	6,499	764	7,263

No. 6.

NUMBER of MINERS employed in the Mining District of MARYBOROUGH during the Quarter ended 31st December 1874.

Mining Surveyors and Registrars' Divisions and Subdivisions.	ALLUVIAL MINERS.		QUARTZ MINERS.		TOTALS.		Grand Totals.
	European.	Chinese.	European.	Chinese.	European.	Chinese.	
Maryborough Division	2,060	400	790	...	2,850	400	3,250
Majorca Subdivision	92	20	...	...	92	20	112
Amherst Division	401	110	74	...	475	110	585
Avoca Subdivision	511	1,178	58	...	569	1,178	1,747
Dunolly and Tarnagulla Divisions	300	320	314	6	614	326	940
Korong Division	890	310	300	...	1,190	310	1,500
Redbank and St. Arnaud South Subdivisions ...	193	83	36	...	229	83	312
St. Arnaud North Subdivision...	50	60	231	...	281	60	341
Totals	4,497	2,481	1,803	6	6,300	2,487	8,787

No. 7.

NUMBER of MINERS employed in the Mining District of CASTLEMAINE during the Quarter ended 31st December 1874.

Mining Surveyors and Registrars' Divisions and Subdivisions.	Alluvial Miners.		Quartz Miners.		Totals.		Grand Totals.
	European.	Chinese.	European.	Chinese.	European.	Chinese.	
Castlemaine Division	435	335	565	2	1,000	337	1,337
Fryer's Creek Division	951	775	277	...	1,228	775	2,003
Hepburn Division	536	417	703	7	1,239	424	1,663
Taradale and Kyneton Subdivision	182	160	152	...	334	160	494
Tarrangower Division	152	350	346	...	498	350	848
St. Andrew's Division	198	60	145	...	343	60	403
Blue Mountain North Subdivision	16	4	22	...	38	4	42
Totals	2,470	2,101	2,210	9	4,680	2,110	6,790

No. 8.

NUMBER of MINERS employed in the Mining District of ARARAT during the Quarter ended 31st December 1874.

Mining Surveyors and Registrars' Divisions and Subdivisions.	Alluvial Miners.		Quartz Miners.		Totals.		Grand Totals.
	European.	Chinese.	European.	Chinese.	European.	Chinese.	
Ararat Division	130	410	40	...	170	410	580
Pleasant Creek Division	561	205	1,107	25	1,668	230	1,898
Barkly Division	325	150	...	...	325	150	475
Raglan Division	233	110	25	...	258	110	368
Totals	1,249	875	1,172	25	2,421	900	3,321

No. 9.

NUMBER of MINERS employed in the Mining District of GIPPSLAND during the Quarter ended 31st December 1874.

Mining Surveyors and Registrars' Divisions and Subdivisions.	Alluvial Miners.		Quartz Miners.		Totals.		Grand Totals.
	European.	Chinese.	European.	Chinese.	European.	Chinese.	
Omeo Subdivision	70	413	25	...	95	413	508
Mitchell River and Boggy Creek Subdivisions ...	154	130	32	...	186	130	316
Crooked River Division	186	105	37	...	223	105	328
Jericho Division	90	45	7	...	97	45	142
Donnelly's Creek Division	93	2	62	...	155	2	157
Stringer's Creek Division	114	...	500	...	614	...	614
Russell's Creek Subdivision	105	...	8	...	113	...	113
Bendoc Subdivision	25	40	49	...	74	40	114
Tarwin Subdivision	170	...	30	...	200	...	200
Traralgon Subdivision	25	...	...	...	25	...	25
Totals	1,032	735	750	...	1,782	735	2,517

No. 10.

SUMMARY.

NUMBER of MACHINES employed in ALLUVIAL and QUARTZ MINING in the several MINING DISTRICTS during the Quarter ended 31st December 1874.

Mining Districts.	ALLUVIAL MINING.													
	Steam-engines employed in Winding, Pumping, &c.		Steam Puddling Machines.	Buddles.	Horse Puddling Machines.	Whims.	Whips or Pulleys.	Sluices, Toms, and Sluice-boxes.	Hydraulic Hoses.	Pumps.	Water-wheels.	Quicksilver and Compound Cradles.	Stamp-heads (crushing Cement).	Boring Machines.
	Total Number.	Aggregate Horse-power.												
Ballarat District	185	5,705	177	7	164	56	18	1,530	1	71	5	5	76	4
Beechworth District ...	45	730	15	...	52	23	43	11,855	14	193	142	...	...	4
Sandhurst District ...	19	300	...	...	140	10	32	30	...	59	...	6	151	1
Maryborough District ...	67	1,938	59	...	388	78	75	127	...	83	3	82	154	5
Castlemaine District ...	13	291	6	...	231	28	61	529	8	116	7	2	46	1
Ararat District	22	328	7	1	29	11	6	68	...	13	...	29	106	...
Gippsland District ...	2	25	2	...	10	10	...	1,397	2	69	67	...	58	2
Totals	353	9,317	266	8	1,014	216	235	15,536	25	604	224	124	591	17

Mining Districts.	QUARTZ MINING.									Approximate Value of all Mining Plant in the Districts.
	Steam-engines employed in Winding, Pumping, Crushing, &c.		Crushing Machines (driven by other power than Steam.	Stamp-heads (crushing Quartz or other vein-stuff).	Buddles.	Winding, Washing, Pumping, or other Machines moved by Water-power.	Whims.	Whips or Pulleys.	Boring Machines used in Blasting.	
	Total Number.	Aggregate Horse-power.								
										£
Ballarat District	135	3,348	10	1,121	22	...	55	15	2	422,448
Beechworth District ...	69	896	44	1,014	9	1	17	11	...	249,856
Sandhurst District ...	232	4,216	2	1,428	3	...	223	269	1	505,580
Maryborough District ...	110	2,070	...	872	3	...	140	133	...	297,939
Castlemaine District ...	160	3,044	3	1,151	3	4	138	122	...	292,465
Ararat District	41	1,411	...	344	...	...	51	15	...	170,724
Gippsland District ...	41	564	16	501	1	26	6	...	1	139,924
Totals	788	15,549	75	6,431	41	31	630	565	4	2,078,936

NOTE.

In the Ballarat District the machinery used in alluvial mining shows a decrease, as compared with the returns for 1873, of 12 steam-engines, 224 horse-power, 36 steam puddling machines, 4 buddles, 42 horse puddling machines, 20 whims, 7 whips or pulleys, 5 sluices. toms, and sluice-boxes, 2 quicksilver and compound cradles, and 5 boring machines; and an increase of 30 pumps, and 57 stamp-heads (crushing cement). In quartz mining there is a decrease of 37 horse-power in the steam-engines, 2 crushing machines driven by other power than steam, 73 stamp-heads, 6 buddles, 2 winding, washing, pumping, or other machines moved by water-power, and 7 whims; and an increase of 4 steam-engines, and 2 whips or pulleys. The value of all mining plant in the district shows a decrease of £72,220.

In the Beechworth District the machinery used in alluvial mining shows an increase of 1 steam-engine, 19 horse-power; and a decrease of 3 horse puddling machines, 1 whim, 8 whips or pulleys, 2,051 sluices, toms, or sluice-boxes, 2 pumps, 6 water-wheels, and 1 boring machine. In quartz mining there is an increase of 4 steam-engines and 37 horse-power, and 3 buddles; and a decrease of 10 stamp-heads, and 1 whim. The value of all mining plant in the district shows a decrease of £6,439.

In the Sandhurst District the machinery used in alluvial mining shows a decrease of 13 horse puddling machines, 3 whips or pulleys, 24 sluices, toms, or sluice-boxes, 40 pumps, and 12 stamp-heads (crushing cement); and an increase of 10 horse-power in the steam-engines. In quartz mining there is an increase of 83 horse-power in the steam-engines, and 5 stamp-heads; and a decrease of 3 steam-engines, 5 whims, and 13 whips or pulleys. The value of all mining plant in the district has increased £2,182.

In the Maryborough District the machinery used in alluvial mining shows a decrease of 4 steam-engines, 149 horse-power, 6 steam puddling machines, 27 horse puddling machines, 21 sluices, toms, and sluice-boxes, 7 pumps, 4 quicksilver and compound cradles, and 2 boring machines; and an increase of 4 whips or pulleys, and 1 water-wheel. In quartz mining there is an increase of 1 steam-engine, 53 horse-power in the steam-engines, 42 stamp-heads, 1 buddle, 15 whips or pulleys, and 8 whims. The value of all mining plant in the district has decreased £12,956.

In the Castlemaine District the machinery used in alluvial mining shows a decrease of 1 steam-engine, 10 horse-power, 1 steam puddling machine, 33 horse puddling machines, 4 whims, 49 sluices, toms, and sluice-boxes, 16 pumps, and 71 quicksilver and compound cradles; and an increase of 1 whip or pulley, 8 hydraulic hoses, and 2 water-wheels. In quartz mining there is a decrease of 5 steam-engines and 252 horse-power, 1 crushing machine driven by other power than steam, 34 whims, and 99 whips or pulleys; and an increase of 10 stamp-heads, and 2 winding, washing, pumping, or other machines moved by water-power. The value of all mining plant in the district shows an increase of £47.

In the Ararat District the machinery used in alluvial mining shows an increase of 7 steam-engines, 87 horse-power, 6 steam puddling machine, 1 buddle, 14 sluices, toms, and sluice-boxes, and 56 stamp-heads (crushing cement); and a decrease of 9 horse puddling machines, 9 whims, 8 whips or pulleys, 2 pumps, and 3 boring machines. In quartz mining there is an increase of 3 steam-engines and 379 horse-power, and 3 whips or pulleys; and a decrease of 53 stamp-heads. The value of all mining plant in the district has increased £48,113.

In the Gippsland District the machinery used in alluvial mining shows an increase of 5 horse-power in steam-engines, 1 steam puddling machine, 1 whim, 2 water-wheels, and 58 stamp-heads (crushing cement); and a decrease of 10 horse puddling machines, 80 sluices, toms, and sluice-boxes, and 10 pumps. In quartz mining there is a decrease of 5 steam-engines, 235 horse-power, and 1 whip or pulley; and an increase of 1 crushing machine driven by other power than steam, 9 stamp-heads, 26 winding, washing, pumping, or other machines moved by water-power, and 1 boring machine. The value of all mining plant in the district has decreased £10,979.

Comparing the totals of machinery employed on the goldfields in 1874 with the totals for 1873, the machinery used in alluvial mining shows a decrease of 9 steam-engines, 262 horse-power, 36 steam puddling machines, 3 buddles, 137 horse puddling machines, 33 whims, 24 whips or pulleys, 2,216 sluices, toms, and sluice-boxes, 47 pumps, 1 water-wheel, 77 quicksilver and compound cradles, and 10 boring machines; and an increase of 8 hydraulic hoses, and 159 stamp-heads (crushing cement). In quartz mining there is an increase of 28 horse-power in steam-engines, 26 winding, washing, pumping, or other machines moved by water-power, and 1 boring machine; and a decrease of 1 steam-engine, 2 crushing machines driven by other power than steam, 70 stamp-heads, 2 buddles, 39 whims, and 93 whips or pulleys. There is a decrease in the total value of all mining plant on the goldfields, as compared with 1873, of £52,252.

No. 11.

NUMBER of MACHINES employed in ALLUVIAL and QUARTZ MINING in the Mining District of BALLARAT during the Quarter ended 31st December 1874.

Mining Surveyors and Registrars' Divisions and Subdivisions.	Alluvial Mining.														Quartz Mining.							Approximate Value of all Mining Plant in the Divisions or Subdivisions.
	Steam-engines employed in Winding, Pumping, &c.		Steam Puddling Machines.	Buddles.	Horse Puddling Machines.	Whims.	Whips or Pulleys.	Sluices, Toms, and Sluice-boxes.	Hydraulic Hoses.	Pumps.	Water-wheels.	Quicksilver and Compound Cradles.	Stamp-heads (crushing Cement).	Boring Machines.	Steam-engines employed in Winding, Pumping, Crushing, &c.		Crushing Machines driven by other power than Steam.	Stamp-heads (crushing Quartz or other vein-stuff).	Buddles.	Whims.	Whips or Pulleys.	Boring Machines used in Blasting.	
	Total Number.	Aggregate Horse-power.													Total Number.	Aggregate Horse-power.							£
Central Division	73	3,282	75	3	19	22	...	39	...	29	...	1	...	1	50	1,074	...	422	3	11	...	...	146,850
Southern Division	2	35	4	...	30	3	11	50	1	7	...	2	6	1	3	60	...	20	...	2	7	...	18,500
Buninyong Division	22	500	14	2	24	8	2	28	...	20	...	...	...	...	8	240	...	79	1	1	...	...	35,000
Smythesdale Division	58	1,270	60	2	11	7	...	63	...	...	3	2	10	1	2	30	...	5	...	...	...	...	25,000
Creswick Division	30	618	24	...	80	16	5	800	...	...	...	...	60	1	25	914	1	167	18	1	...	1	102,500
Gordon Subdivision	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	177	...	63	...	4	1	...	9,503
Steiglitz Subdivision	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	308	...	58	...	14	7	1	21,095
Blackwood Division and Blue Mountain South Subdivision	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	450	...	15	2	...	...	...	24	535	9	299	...	20	...	...	63,000
Ballan Subdivision	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	10	...	8	...	2	...	...	1,000
Totals	185	5,705	177	7	164	56	18	1,530	1	71	5	5	76	4	135	3,348	10	1,121	22	55	15	2	422,448

No. 12.

NUMBER of MACHINES employed in ALLUVIAL and QUARTZ MINING in the Mining District of BEECHWORTH during the Quarter ended 31st December 1874.

Mining Surveyors and Registrars' Divisions and Subdivisions.	Alluvial Mining.											Quartz Mining.								Approximate Value of all Mining Plant in the Divisions or Subdivisions.
	Steam-engines employed in Winding, Pumping, &c.		Steam Puddling Machines.	Horse Puddling Machines.	Whims.	Whips or Pulleys.	Sluices, Toms, and Sluice-boxes.	Hydraulic Hoses.	Pumps.	Water-wheels	Boring Machines.	Steam-engines employed in Winding, Pumping, Crushing, &c.		Crushing Machines driven by other power than Steam.	Stamp-heads (crushing Quartz or other vein-stuff).	Buddles.	Winding, Washing, Pumping, or other Machines moved by Water-power.	Whims.	Whips or Pulleys.	
	Total Number.	Aggregate Horse-power.										Total Number.	Aggregate Horse-power.							£
Beechworth Division	25	270	...	4	8	3	5,200	3	52	20	2	6	89	4	59	...	...	5	...	49,960
Yackandandah Division	1	6	...	...	...	...	3,000	3	22	20	...	6	85	2	54	3	...	2	...	10,180
Indigo Division	11	338	11	39	10	38	118	...	15	...	1	4	46	...	32	...	...	1	6	22,898
Buckland Division	2	22	...	...	...	...	2,000	...	46	46	1	19	243	16	282	3	...	...	...	37,900
Alexandra Subdivision	6	94	4	9	5	...	40	...	2	4	...	10	141	1	98	...	...	6	4	19,920
Dry Creek Subdivision	...	...	...	...	...	...	400	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	400
Benalla Subdivision	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gaffney's Creek Subdivision	...	...	...	...	...	2	175	...	12	12	...	6	78	12	176	1	1	...	...	30,044
Wood's Point Subdivision	...	...	...	...	...	...	260	...	16	16	...	9	115	7	207	2	...	3	1	51,671
Big River Subdivision	...	...	...	...	...	...	180	...	8	8	...	5	52	...	42	...	...	...	...	10,683
Mitta-mitta Division	...	...	...	...	...	...	32	8	20	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,200
Jamieson Subdivision	...	...	...	...	...	...	450	...	...	...	...	4	47	2	64	...	...	...	...	15,000
Totals	45	730	15	52	23	43	11,855	14	193	142	4	69	896	44	1,014	9	1	17	11	249,856

No. 13.

NUMBER of MACHINES employed in ALLUVIAL and QUARTZ MINING in the Mining District of SANDHURST during the Quarter ended 31st December 1874.

Mining Surveyors and Registrars' Divisions and Subdivisions.	Alluvial Mining										Quartz Mining.							Approximate Value of all Mining Plant in the Divisions or Subdivisions.
	Steam-engines employed in Winding, Pumping, &c.		Horse Puddling Machines.	Whims.	Whips or Pulleys.	Sluices, Toms, and Sluice-boxes.	Pumps.	Quicksilver and Compound Cradles.	Stamp-heads (crushing Cement).	Boring Machines.	Steam-engines employed in Winding, Pumping, Crushing, &c.		Crushing Machines driven by other power than Steam.	Stamp-heads (crushing Quartz or other vein-stuff).	Buddles.	Whims.	Whips or Pulleys.	Boring Machines used in Blasting.	
	Total Number.	Aggregate Horse-power.									Total Number.	Aggregate Horse-power.							£
Sandhurst Division	19	300	100	6	24	...	9	6	151	1	206	3,750	...	1,210	3	210	245	1	469,700
Kilmore Division	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	25	2	16	...	...	...	...	1,800
Heathcote Division and Waranga South Subdivision ...	...	...	40	4	8	30	50	...	...	...	17	248	...	129	...	7	18	...	20,080
Waranga North Subdivision	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	193	...	73	...	6	6	...	14,000
Totals	19	300	140	10	32	30	59	6	151	1	232	4,216	2	1,428	3	223	269	1	505,580

No. 14.

NUMBER of MACHINES employed in ALLUVIAL and QUARTZ MINING in the Mining District of MARYBOROUGH during the Quarter ended 31st December 1874.

Mining Surveyors and Registrars' Divisions and Subdivisions.	Alluvial Mining.												Quartz Mining.						Approximate Value of all Mining Plant in the Divisions or Subdivisions.
	Steam-engines employed in Winding, Pumping, &c.		Steam Puddling Machines.	Horse Puddling Machines.	Whims.	Whips or Pulleys.	Sluices, Toms, and Sluice-boxes.	Pumps.	Water-wheels.	Quicksilver and Compound Cradles.	Stamp-heads (crushing Cement).	Boring Machines.	Steam-engines employed in Winding, Pumping, Crushing, &c.		Stamp-heads (crushing Quartz or other vein-stuff).	Buddles.	Whims.	Whips or Pulleys.	
	Total Number.	Aggregate Horse-power.											Total Number.	Aggregate Horse-power.					£
Maryborough Division	42	1,468	39	178	34	10	6	4	2	36	148	4	27	614	209	2	30	27	150,202
Majorca Subdivision	9	211	6	3	5	...	9	6	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	8,024
Amherst Division	9	150	10	30	10	22	60	70	1	25	...	1	5	74	28	...	5	14	16,125
Avoca Subdivision	3	57	4	71	9	23	45	3	...	3	...	...	6	94	70	1	3	7	11,943
Dunolly and Tarnagulla Divisions	2	32	...	61	16	8	...	...	...	15	...	...	36	684	265	...	30	24	60,024
Korong Division	2	20	...	22	2	11	...	...	...	...	6	...	15	234	174	...	50	31	18,000
Redbank and St. Arnaud South Subdivisions	...	...	...	14	2	1	7	...	...	...	...	...	6	88	36	...	4	4	7,321
St. Arnaud North Subdivision	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	282	90	...	17	26	26,300
Totals	67	1,938	59	388	78	75	127	83	3	82	154	5	110	2,070	872	3	140	133	297,939

No. 15.

NUMBER of MACHINES employed in ALLUVIAL and QUARTZ MINING in the Mining District of CASTLEMAINE during the Quarter ended 31st December 1874.

Mining Surveyors and Registrars' Divisions and Subdivisions.	ALLUVIAL MINING.													QUARTZ MINING.								Approximate Value of all Mining Plant in the Divisions or Subdivisions.
	Steam-engines employed in Winding, Pumping, &c.		Steam Puddling Machines.	Horse Puddling Machines.	Whims.	Whips or Pulleys.	Sluices, Toms, and Sluice-boxes.	Hydraulic Hoses.	Pumps.	Water-wheels.	Quicksilver and Compound Cradles.	Stamp-heads (crushing Cement).	Boring Machines.	Steam-engines employed in Winding, Pumping, Crushing, &c.		Crushing Machines driven by other power than Steam.	Stamp-heads (crushing Quartz or other vein-stuff).	Buddles.	Winding, Washing, Pumping, or other Machines moved by Water-power.	Whims.	Whips or Pulleys.	
	Total Number.	Aggregate Horse-power.												Total Number.	Aggregate Horse-power.							
																						£
Castlemaine Division	2	38	4	107	...	1	85	6	11	...	...	...	...	46	830	...	329	...	...	29	37	76,735
Fryer's Creek Division	5	88	1	56	6	15	306	..	38	2	2	36	...	19	461	...	147	2	1	9	15	69,524
Hepburn Division	1	26	1	32	2	45	133	...	48	3	...	10	1	33	535	...	217	1	3	57	57	38,154
Taradale and Kyneton Subdivision	5	139	...	9	20	...	5	...	3	...	...	...	...	19	331	...	152	...	...	...	...	37,720
Tarrangower Division	...	...	...	17	...	...	...	...	16	...	...	...	...	34	767	...	230	...	...	41	12	63,752
St. Andrew's Division	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	2	...	2	...	...	...	7	98	2	68	...	...	2	1	4,680
Blue Mountain North Subdivision	...	...	...	2	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	22	1	8	...	...	...	...	1,900
Totals	13	291	6	231	28	61	529	8	116	7	2	46	1	160	3,044	3	1,151	3	4	138	122	292,465

No. 16.

NUMBER of MACHINES employed in ALLUVIAL and QUARTZ MINING in the Mining District of ARARAT during the Quarter ended 31st December 1874

Mining Surveyors and Registrars' Divisions.	ALLUVIAL MINING.											QUARTZ MINING.					Approximate Value of all Mining Plant in the Divisions.
	Steam-engines employed in Winding, Pumping, &c.		Steam Puddling Machines.	Buddles.	Horse Puddling Machines.	Whims.	Whips or Pulleys.	Sluices, Toms, and Sluice-boxes.	Pumps.	Quicksilver and Compound Cradles.	Stamp-heads (crushing Cement).	Steam-engines employed in Winding, Pumping, Crushing, &c.		Stamp-heads (crushing Quartz or other vein-stuff).	Whims.	Whips or Pulleys.	
	Total Number.	Aggregate Horse-power.										Total Number.	Aggregate Horse-power.				
																	£
Ararat Division	4	35	...	1	11	3	4	30	12	4	26	4	92	30	2	3	14,260
Pleasant Creek Division	10	160	1	...	1	4	...	25	...	25	70	36	1,309	306	48	10	143,239
Barkly Division	1	10	...	...	7	3	...	3	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	2,525
Raglan Division	7	123	6	...	10	1	2	10	1	...	...	1	10	8	1	2	10,700
Totals	22	328	7	1	29	11	6	68	13	29	106	41	1,411	344	51	15	170,724

No. 17.

NUMBER of MACHINES employed in ALLUVIAL and QUARTZ MINING in the Mining District of GIPPSLAND during the Quarter ended 31st December 1874.

Mining Surveyors and Registrars' Divisions and Subdivisions.	ALLUVIAL MINING.											QUARTZ MINING.								Approximate Value of all Mining Plant in the Divisions or Subdivisions.
	Steam-engines employed in Winding, Pumping, &c.		Steam Puddling Machines.	Horse Puddling Machines.	Whims.	Sluices, Tons, and Sluice-boxes.	Hydraulic Hoses.	Pumps.	Water-wheels.	Stamp-heads crushing Cement.	Boring Machines.	Steam-engines employed in Winding, Pumping, Crushing, &c.		Crushing Machines driven by other power than Steam.	Stamp-heads (crushing Quartz or other vein-stuff).	Buddles.	Winding, Washing, Pumping, or other Machines moved by water-power.	Whims.	Boring Machines (used in blasting).	
	Number.	Aggregate Horse-power.										Number.	Aggregate Horse-power.							
																				£
Omeo Subdivision ...	...	...	...	...	...	875	2	21	21	...	...	1	17	2	23	...	...	1	...	6,315
Mitchell River and Boggy Creek Subdivisions ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	22	...	17	...	...	1	...	1,700
Crooked River Division ...	...	...	...	...	...	200	...	20	13	...	...	10	137	7	126	...	...	...	1	32,222
Jericho Division... ...	...	...	...	...	...	150	...	20	20	58	...	5	70	...	58	...	20	...	...	18,672
Donnelly's Creek Division	...	...	...	...	1	24	...	...	...	...	...	5	58	...	51	...	...	...	...	10,500
Stringer's Creek Division	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	194	2	176	1	6	...	...	61,079
Russell's Creek Subdivision	...	...	...	2	2	90	...	7	5	...	...	1	8	2	12	...	...	1	...	1,750
Bendoc Subdivision ...	...	...	...	...	...	40	...	...	8	...	...	3	38	2	30	...	...	...	...	3,211
Tarwin Subdivision ...	2	25	2	8	7	13	...	1	...	...	1	2	20	1	8	...	...	3	...	4,430
Traralgon Subdivision ...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
Totals	2	25	2	10	10	1,397	2	69	67	58	2	41	564	16	501	1	26	6	1	139,924

No. 18.

SUMMARY.

NUMBER of distinct QUARTZ REEFS actually proved to be Auriferous, and the Total Extent in Square Miles of Auriferous ALLUVIAL and QUARTZ GROUND actually worked upon, in the several Mining Districts.

Mining Districts.	Number of distinct Quartz Reefs proved to be Auriferous.	Extent in Square Miles of Auriferous Alluvial and Quartz Ground worked upon.
Ballarat District	206	152
Beechworth District	911	280¾
Sandhurst District	757	141
Maryborough District	566	82¾
Castlemaine District	397	165¼
Ararat District	77	83¼
Gippsland District	484	158
Totals	3,398	1,063

NOTE.—The number of "distinct" quartz reefs cannot be strictly correct, as parts of the same reef, in some localities, are held to be distinct reefs, and named accordingly. As the reefs are further explored, it is found, too, that what were supposed to be separate reefs are not really distinct. The extent of auriferous ground is here put down from estimates made by the Mining Surveyors and Registrars, not from actual surveys; and in a few instances the estimates of the present Surveyors and Registrars differ from those made by their predecessors. The figures vary from year to year; as the shallow alluviums of the older goldfields are abandoned by the miners, they are taken up and occupied, under the provisions of the Land Act, by agriculturists and gardeners, and ground which one year was included in the estimated area of gold-workings is excluded in another.

No. 19.

TABLE showing the Number of distinct QUARTZ REEFS actually proved to be Auriferous, and the Total Extent in Square Miles of Auriferous ALLUVIAL and QUARTZ GROUND actually worked upon, in the several DIVISIONS and SUBDIVISIONS of each Mining District.

Mining Districts.	Mining Surveyors and Registrars' Divisions and Subdivisions.	Number of distinct Quartz Reefs proved to be Auriferous.	Extent in Square Miles of Auriferous Alluvial and Quartz Ground worked upon.	Remarks.
BALLARAT	Central Division	24	39	
	Southern Division	16	8½	
	Buninyong Division	13	16	
	Smythesdale Division	11	16½	
	Creswick Division	16	13	
	Gordon Subdivision	19	3½	
	Steiglitz Subdivision	74	50	
	Blackwood Division and Blue Mountain South Subdivision	30	4½	
	Ballan Subdivision	3	1	
	Totals	206	152	

No. 19.—TABLE showing Number of distinct Quartz Reefs actually proved to be Auriferous, &c.—*continued.*

Mining Districts.	Mining Surveyors and Registrars' Divisions and Subdivisions.	Number of distinct Quartz Reefs proved to be Auriferous.	Extent in Square Miles of Auriferous Alluvial and Quartz Ground worked upon.	Remarks.
BEECHWORTH ...	Beechworth Division	98	47	
	Yackandandah Division	80	12	
	Indigo Division	25	7¼	
	Buckland Division	481	60	
	Alexandra Subdivision	71	35	
	Dry Creek Subdivision	...	5½	
	Benalla Subdivision	3	10	
	Gaffney's Creek Subdivision	18	24	
	Wood's Point Subdivision	95	18	
	Big River Subdivision	14	33	
	Mitta-mitta Division	...	20	
	Jamieson Subdivision	26	9	
	Totals	911	280¾	
SANDHURST ...	Sandhurst Division	318	22	
	Kilmore Division	127	27	
	Heathcote Division and Waranga South Subdivision	202	81	
	Waranga North Subdivision	110	11	
	Totals	757	141	
MARYBOROUGH ...	Maryborough Division	161	5	
	Majorca Subdivision	1	2½	
	Amherst Division	30	5	
	Avoca Subdivision	20	18½	
	Dunolly and Tarnagulla Divisions	185	16	
	Korong Division	72	17	
	Redbank and St. Arnaud South Subdivisions	28	11¾	
	St. Arnaud North Subdivision	69	7	
	Totals	566	82¾	
CASTLEMAINE ...	Castlemaine Division	103	9¼	
	Fryer's Creek Division	37	28¾	
	Hepburn Division	88	82	
	Taradale and Kyneton Subdivision	19	22	
	Tarrangower Division	74	4¼	
	St. Andrew's Division	72	15	
	Blue Mountain North Subdivision ...	4	4	
	Totals	397	165¼	
ARARAT	Ararat Division	26	34	
	Pleasant Creek Division	37	27	
	Barkly Division	9	16	
	Raglan Division	5	6¼	
	Totals	77	83¼	
GIPPSLAND	Omeo Subdivision	20	10	
	Mitchell River and Boggy Creek Subdivisions	18	23	
	Crooked River Division	350	49½	
	Jericho Division	30	26	
	Donnelly's Creek Division	17	6½	
	Stringer's Creek Division	15	8	
	Russell's Creek Subdivision	14	4	
	Bendoc Subdivision	15	26	
	Tarwin Subdivision	4	3	
	Traralgon Subdivision	1	2	
	Totals	484	158	

No. 20.

SUMMARY.

AVERAGE YIELD of GOLD from certain parcels of QUARTZ Crushed in 1874 in the several MINING DISTRICTS, from Returns made by the Mining Surveyors and Registrars.

Mining Districts.	Tons Crushed.	Total Produce.	Average Yield per Ton.
	tons cwt.	ozs. dwts. grs.	ozs. dwts. grs.
Ballarat District	276,409 16	105,888 10 15	0 7 15·88
Beechworth District	73,125 15	37,364 12 22	0 10 5·26
Sandhurst District	323,493 0	230,726 9 2	0 14 6·35
Maryborough District	31,903 0	15,072 6 2	0 9 10·77
Castlemaine District	156,146 10	75,789 13 18	0 9 16·98
Ararat District	63,757 0	58,684 5 7	0 18 9·80
Gippsland District	42,234 8	49,694 19 11	1 3 12·79
Totals	967,069 9	573,220 17 5	0 11 20·51

NOTE.—*The above table does not show the total quantity of quartz crushed in the several localities, but only the yield of certain "crushings" respecting which the Mining Surveyors and Registrars have been able to obtain information.* Owing to the circumstance that many of the machine-owners are unable to give, or are precluded from giving, information, it is impossible to get complete returns from every district, and in considering the relative importance of each district as regards quartz mining, the tables relating to machinery should be examined and compared.

Since the first publication of the Statistics, information has been obtained concerning 11,441,638 tons 6 cwt. which have been crushed, which yielded 6,447,640 ozs. 6 dwts. of gold, being an average of 11 dwts. 6·49 grs. per ton.

No. 21.

TABLE showing the AVERAGE YIELD of GOLD from certain parcels of QUARTZ Crushed in 1874 in the several DIVISIONS and SUBDIVISIONS of each Mining District, from Returns made by the Mining Surveyors and Registrars.

Mining Districts.	Mining Surveyors and Registrars' Divisions and Subdivisions.	Tons Crushed.	Total Produce.	Average Yield per Ton.	Remarks.
		tons cwt.	ozs. dwts. grs.	ozs. dwts. grs.	
BALLARAT	Central Division	104,256 0	29,173 0 22	0 5 14·31	
	Southern Division	6,132 0	1,137 7 0	0 3 17·02	
	Buninyong Division	14,810 0	2,359 10 15	0 3 4·47	
	Smythesdale Division	166 6	49 10 0	0 5 22·87	
	Creswick Division	91,427 0	28,926 10 9	0 6 7·86	
	Gordon Subdivision	17,479 0	21,397 18 10	1 4 11·61	
	Steiglitz Subdivision	7,797 0	7,537 2 0	0 19 8	
	Blackwood Division and Blue Mountain South Subdivision ...	34,232 10	15,196 6 7	0 8 21·07	
	Ballan Subdivision	110 0	111 5 0	1 0 5·45	
	Totals	276,409 16	105,888 10 15	0 7 15·88	
BEECHWORTH ...	Beechworth Division	6,384 0	4,717 9 0	0 14 18·69	
	Yackandandah Division	3,155 0	1,529 14 16	0 9 16·73	
	Indigo Division	2,032 15	2,258 7 0	1 2 5·27	
	Buckland Division...	29,609 0	16,013 0 12	0 10 19·59	
	Alexandra Subdivision ...	1,535 0	1,321 1 5	0 17 5·10	
	Dry Creek Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Benalla Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Gaffney's Creek Subdivision ...	8,980 0	1,755 6 10	0 3 21·82	
	Wood's Point Subdivision	9,939 0	3,595 12 0	0 7 5·64	
	Big River Subdivision	4,988 10	1,559 0 0	0 6 6	
	Mitta-mitta Division	...	...	...	
	Jamieson Subdivision	6,502 10	4,615 2 3	0 14 4·67	
	Totals	73,125 15	37,364 12 22	0 10 5·26	
SANDHURST	Sandhurst Division	316,265 0	225,702 9 17	0 14 6·55	
	Kilmore Division	320 0	80 0 0	0 5 0	
	Heathcote Division and Waranga South Subdivision ...	1,850 0	1,206 2 3	0 13 0·93	
	Waranga North Subdivision ...	5,058 0	3,737 17 6	0 14 18·72	
	Totals	323,493 0	230,726 9 2	0 14 6·35	
MARYBOROUGH ...	Maryborough Division	8,936 0	4,450 2 9	0 9 23·04	
	Majorca Subdivision	58 0	99 5 0	1 14 5·37	
	Amherst Division	3,738 10	1,470 9 3	0 7 20·79	
	Avoca Subdivision	2,338 0	845 16 5	0 7 5·64	
	Dunolly and Tarnagulla Divisions ...	4,407 0	1,664 15 6	0 7 13·32	
	Korong Division	4,398 0	1,897 6 16	0 8 15·07	
	Redbank and St. Arnaud South Subdivisions	1,640 0	652 5 17	0 7 22·91	
	St. Arnaud North Subdvision ...	6,387 10	3,992 5 18	0 12 12	
	Totals	31,903 0	15,072 6 2	0 9 10·77	
CASTLEMAINE ...	Castlemaine Division	35,249 0	12,692 10 19	0 7 4·83	
	Fryer's Creek Division	24,331 0	9,254 2 20	0 7 14·56	
	Hepburn Division	44,921 0	15,411 9 16	0 6 20·67	
	Taradale and Kyneton Subdivision ...	28,622 0	11,340 17 22	0 7 22·18	
	Tarrangower Division	21,054 0	24,563 12 17	0 3 8·01	
	St. Andrew's Division	1,969 10	2,526 19 20	1 5 15·87	
	Blue Mountain North Subdivision ...	...	...	...	
	Totals	156,146 10	75,789 13 18	0 9 16·98	
ARARAT	Ararat Division	284 0	79 9 6	0 5 14·30	
	Pleasant Creek Division	62,924 0	58,483 18 1	0 18 14·12	
	Barkly Division	...	...	...	
	Raglan Division	549 0	120 18 0	0 4 9·70	
	Totals	63,757 0	58,684 5 7	0 18 9·80	
GIPPSLAND	Omeo Subdivision	355 8	319 17 16	0 18 0·03	
	Mitchell River and Boggy Creek Subdivisions	1,140 0	673 13 0	0 11 19·64	
	Crooked River Division	1,832 0	1,185 1 1	0 12 22·49	
	Jericho Division	530 0	66 5 0	0 2 12	
	Donnelly's Creek Division	1,115 0	2,015 7 0	0 16 3·59	
	Stringer's Creek Division	36,043 0	44,026 15 18	1 4 10·32	
	Russell's Creek Subdivision ...	325 0	169 0 0	0 10 9·60	
	Bendoc Subdivision	140 0	67 0 0	0 9 13·71	
	Tarwin Subdivision	754 0	1,172 0 0	1 11 2·10	
	Traralgon Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Totals	42,234 8	49,694 19 11	1 3 12·79	

No. 22.

SUMMARY.

AVERAGE YIELD of GOLD from certain parcels of QUARTZ TAILINGS, MULLOCK, &c., Crushed in 1874 in the several MINING DISTRICTS, from Returns made by the Mining Surveyors and Registrars.

Mining Districts.	Tons Crushed.	Total Produce.	Average Yield per Ton.	Remarks.
	tons.	ozs. dwts. grs.	ozs. dwts. grs.	
Ballarat District	14,119	2,765 9 12	0 3 22·01	
Beechworth District	1,278	187 13 6	0 2 22·48	
Sandhurst District	8,215	510 14 4	0 1 5·84	
Maryborough District	9,148	1,522 19 6	0 3 7·91	
Castlemaine District	33,850	1,640 4 21	0 0 23·25	
Ararat District	2,829	239 10 9	0 1 16·63	
Gippsland District	...	...	...	
Totals	69,439	6,866 11 10	0 1 23·46	

NOTE.—From 1864 to 1874, inclusive, 1,663,033 tons of Quartz Tailings, &c., were crushed, and yielded 299,117 ozs. 4 dwts. 2 grs. of gold, being an average of 3 dwts. 14·33 grs. per ton.

No. 23.

TABLE showing the AVERAGE YIELD of GOLD from certain parcels of QUARTZ TAILINGS, MULLOCK, &c., Crushed in 1874 in the several DIVISIONS and SUBDIVISIONS of each Mining District, from Returns made by the Mining Surveyors and Registrars.

Mining Districts.	Mining Surveyors and Registrars' Divisions and Subdivisions.	Tons Crushed.	Total Produce.	Average Yield per Ton.	Remarks.
		tons.	ozs. dwts. grs.	ozs. dwts. grs.	
BALLARAT ...	Central Division	14,119	2,765 9 12	0 3 22·01	
	Southern Division				
	Buninyong Division				
	Smythesdale Division				
	Creswick Division				
	Gordon Subdivision				
	Steiglitz Subdivision				
	Blackwood Division and Blue Mountain South Subdivision				
	Ballan Subdivision				
	Totals	14,119	2,765 9 12	0 3 22·01	
BEECHWORTH ...	Beechworth Division	42	7 16 0	0 3 11·42	
	Yackandandah Division	...	...	...	
	Indigo Division	575	49 0 0	0 1 16·90	
	Buckland Division	120	17 0 0	0 2 20	
	Alexandra Subdivision	541	113 17 6	0 4 5·02	
	Dry Creek Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Benalla Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Gaffney's Creek Subdivision ...	...	...	...	
	Wood's Point Subdivision ...	...	...	...	
	Big River Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Mitta-mitta Division	...	...	...	
	Jamieson Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Totals	1,278	187 13 6	0 2 22·48	
SANDHURST ...	Sandhurst Division	3,699	273 9 0	0 1 11·48	
	Kilmore Division	...	...	...	
	Heathcote Division and Waranga South Subdivision	2,605	134 9 22	0 1 0·78	
	Waranga North Subdivision ...	1,911	102 15 6	0 1 1·81	
	Totals	8,215	510 14 4	0 1 5·84	

No. 23.—TABLE showing the Average Yield of Gold from certain parcels of Quartz Tailings, &c.—*continued.*

Mining Districts.	Mining Surveyors and Registrars' Divisions and Subdivisions.	Tons Crushed.	Total Produce.	Average Yield per Ton.	Remarks.
		tons.	ozs. dwts. grs.	ozs. dwts. grs.	
MARYBOROUGH ...	Maryborough Division	1,178	91 17 0	0 1 13·42	
	Majorca Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Amherst Division	2,965	321 0 0	0 2 3·96	
	Avoca Subdivision	182	8 1 8	0 0 21·27	
	Dunolly and Tarnagulla Divisions ...	6	0 12 0	0 2 0	
	Korong Division	...	...	...	
	Redbank and St. Arnaud South Subdivisions	2,592	697 5 22	0 5 9·12	
	St. Arnaud North Subdivision ...	2,225	404 3 0	0 3 15·18	
	Totals	9,148	1,522 19 6	0 3 7·91	
CASTLEMAINE ...	Castlemaine Division	1,481	102 14 12	0 1 9·29	
	Fryer's Creek Division	782	217 2 13	0 5 13·27	
	Hepburn Division	659	89 1 12	0 2 16·88	
	Taradale and Kyneton Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Tarrangower Division	30,858	1,225 15 15	0 0 19·06	
	St. Andrew's Division	70	5 10 17	0 1 13·95	
	Blue Mountain North Subdivision...	...	...	...	
	Totals	33,850	1,640 4 21	0 0 23·25	
ARARAT	Ararat Division	36	2 13 16	0 1 11·78	
	Pleasant Creek Division	2,793	236 16 17	0 1 16·70	
	Barkly Division	...	...	...	
	Raglan Division	...	...	...	
	Totals	2,829	239 10 9	0 1 16·63	
GIPPSLAND ...	Omeo Subdivision	Nil	Nil	Nil	
	Mitchell River and Boggy Creek Subdivisions				
	Crooked River Division				
	Jericho Division				
	Donnelly's Creek Division ...				
	Stringer's Creek Division				
	Russell's Creek Subdivision ...				
	Bendoc Subdivision				
	Tarwin Subdivision				
	Traralgon Subdivision				
	Totals	Nil	Nil	Nil	

No. 24.

SUMMARY.

AVERAGE YIELD of GOLD from certain parcels of PYRITES and BLANKETINGS operated on in 1874 in the several MINING DISTRICTS, from Returns made by the Mining Surveyors and Registrars.

Mining Districts.	Quantity operated on.	Total Produce.	Average Yield per Ton.	Remarks.
	tons cwt.	ozs. dwts. grs.	ozs. dwts. grs.	
Ballarat District	833 15	2,156 19 6	2 11 17·78	
Beechworth District	498 5	699 9 11	1 8 1·85	
Sandhurst District	3,621 0	13,617 11 16	3 15 5·14	
Maryborough District	889 0	344 5 8	0 7 17·88	
Castlemaine District	398 0	992 15 12	2 9 21·31	
Ararat District	0 10	9 14 18	19 9 12	
Gippsland District	485 5	1,120 18 14	2 6 4·80	
Totals	6,725 15	18,941 14 13	2 16 7·82	

NOTE.—From 1869 to 1874, inclusive, 25,445 tons 4 cwt. of pyrites, &c., were operated on, and yielded 70,551 ozs. 0 dwts. 14 grs. of gold, being an average of 2 ozs. 15 dwts. 10·88 grs. per ton.

No. 25.

TABLE showing the AVERAGE YIELD of GOLD from certain parcels of PYRITES and BLANKETINGS operated on in 1874 in the several DIVISIONS and SUBDIVISIONS of each Mining District, from Returns made by the Mining Surveyors and Registrars.

Mining Districts.	Mining Surveyors and Registrars' Divisions and Subdivisions.	Quantity operated on.	Total Produce.	Average Yield per Ton.	Remarks.
		tons cwt.	ozs. dwts. grs.	ozs. dwts. grs.	
BALLARAT ...	Central Division	145 0	221 17 6	1 10 14·44	
	Southern Division	...	...	...	
	Buninyong Division	...	...	...	
	Smythesdale Division	...	...	...	
	Creswick Division	678 15	1,901 18 0	2 16 0·99	
	Gordon Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Steiglitz Subdivision	5 0	20 0 0	4 0 0	
	Blackwood Division and Blue Mountain South Subdivision ...	5 0	13 4 0	2 12 19·20	
	Ballan Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Totals	833 15	2,156 19 6	2 11 17·78	
BEECHWORTH ...	Beechworth Division	65 17	114 0 5	1 14 15·05	
	Yackandandah Division	231 0	333 0 0	1 8 19·94	
	Indigo Division	...	...	...	
	Buckland Division	162 0	176 2 0	1 1 17·77	
	Alexandra Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Dry Creek Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Benalla Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Gaffney's Creek Subdivision ...	8 0	11 8 0	1 8 12	
	Wood's Point Subdivision ...	21 8	34 19 6	1 12 16·20	
	Big River Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Mitta-mitta Division	...	...	...	
	Jamieson Subdivision	10 0	30 0 0	3 0 0	
	Totals	498 5	699 9 11	1 8 1·85	
SANDHURST ...	Sandhurst Division	3,621 0	13,617 11 16	3 15 5·14	
	Kilmore Division	...	...	...	
	Heathcote Division and Waranga South Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Waranga North Subdivision ...	...	...	...	
	Totals	3,621 0	13,617 11 16	3 15 5·14	
MARYBOROUGH ...	Maryborough Division	580 0	49 0 12	0 1 16·57	
	Majorca Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Amherst Division	...	...	...	
	Avoca Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Dunolly and Tarnagulla Divisions ...	...	...	...	
	Korong Division	...	...	...	
	Redbank and St. Arnaud South Subdivisions	20 0	26 1 0	1 6 1·20	
	St. Arnaud North Subdivision ...	289 0	269 3 20	0 18 15·10	
	Totals	889 0	344 5 8	0 7 17·88	
CASTLEMAINE ...	Castlemaine Division	295 0	712 5 12	2 8 6·95	
	Fryer's Creek Division	...	...	...	
	Hepburn Division	103 0	280 10 0	2 14 11·18	
	Taradale and Kyneton Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Tarrangower Division	...	...	...	
	St. Andrew's Division	...	...	...	
	Blue Mountain North Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Totals	398 0	992 15 12	2 9 21·31	
ARARAT	Ararat Division	...	...	...	
	Pleasant Creek Division	0 10	9 14 18	19 9 12	
	Barkly Division	...	...	...	
	Raglan Division	...	...	...	
	Totals	0 10	9 14 18	19 9 12	
GIPPSLAND ...	Omeo Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Mitchell River and Boggy Creek Subdivisions	...	...	...	
	Crooked River Division	...	...	...	
	Jericho Division	...	...	...	
	Donnelly's Creek Division ...	...	...	...	
	Stringer's Creek Division	485 5	1,120 18 14	2 6 4·80	
	Russell's Creek Subdivision ...	...	...	...	
	Bendoc Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Tarwin Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Traralgon Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Totals	485 5	1,120 18 14	2 6 4·80	

No. 26.

SUMMARY.

AVERAGE YIELD of GOLD from certain parcels of WASHDIRT Puddled and Sluiced in 1874 in the several MINING DISTRICTS, from Returns made by the Mining Surveyors and Registrars.

Mining Districts.	Tons Puddled or Sluiced.	Total Produce.	Average Yield per Ton.	Remarks.
	tons cwt.	ozs. dwts. grs.	ozs. dwts. grs.	
Ballarat District	267,958 0	22,531 0 10	0 1 16·36	
Beechworth District	55,777 0	5,599 17 5	0 2 0·19	
Sandhurst District	33,662 0	4,639 10 3	0 2 18·15	
Maryborough District	61,548 5	8,987 11 12	0 2 22·09	
Castlemaine District	615,471 0	12,337 3 16	0 0 9·62	
Ararat District	2,929 2	630 15 9	0 4 7·36	
Gippsland District	...	...	...	
Totals	1,037,345 7	54,725 18 7	0 1 1·32	

NOTE.—*The above table does not show the total quantity of washdirt puddled or sluiced in the several localities, but only the yield of certain "washings" respecting which the Mining Surveyors and Registrars have been able to obtain information.* Owing to the circumstance that many of the machine-owners are unable to give, or are precluded from giving, information, it is impossible to get complete returns from every district, and in considering the relative importance of each district as regards alluvial mining, the tables relating to machinery should be examined and compared.

NOTE.—The collection of the statistical information relating to the yield of gold from washdirt was commenced during the quarter ending 30th June 1872, from which period to 1874 inclusive, 3,351,467 tons 7 cwt. of washdirt were puddled and sluiced, and yielded 214,767 ozs. 10 dwts. 12 grs. of gold, being an average of 1dwt. 6·76 grs. per ton.

No. 27.

TABLE showing the AVERAGE YIELD of GOLD from certain parcels of WASHDIRT Puddled and Sluiced in 1874 in the several DIVISIONS and SUBDIVISIONS of each Mining District, from Returns made by the Mining Surveyors and Registrars.

Mining Districts.	Mining Surveyors and Registrars' Divisions and Subdivisions.	Tons Puddled or Sluiced.	Total Produce.	Average Yield per Ton.	Remarks.
		tons.	ozs. dwts. grs.	ozs. dwts. grs.	
BALLARAT ...	Central Division	142,349	11,628 2 21	0 1 15·21	
	Southern Division	4,313	446 18 0	0 2 1·73	
	Buninyong Division	6,370	550 16 13	0 1 17·50	
	Smythesdale Division	...	...	...	
	Creswick Division	78,016	9,060 17 0	0 2 7·74	
	Gordon Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Steiglitz Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Blackwood Division and Blue Mountain South Subdivision	36,910	844 6 0	0 0 10·97	
	Ballan Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Totals	267,958	22,531 0 10	0 1 16·36	
BEECHWORTH ...	Beechworth Division	...	...	...	
	Yackandandah Division	...	...	...	
	Indigo Division	34,550	3,918 0 0	0 2 6·43	
	Buckland Division	...	...	...	
	Alexandra Subdivision	21,227	1,681 17 5	0 1 14·03	
	Dry Creek Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Benalla Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Gaffney's Creek Subdivision ...	...	...	...	
	Wood's Point Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Big River Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Mitta-mitta Division	...	...	...	
	Jamieson Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Totals	55,777	5,599 17 5	0 2 0·19	
SANDHURST ...	Sandhurst Division	33,662	4,639 10 3	0 2 18·15	
	Kilmore Division	...	...	...	
	Heathcote Division and Waranga South Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Waranga North Subdivision ...	...	...	...	
	Totals	33,662	4,639 10 3	0 2 18·15	

No. 27.—Table showing the Average Yield of Gold from certain parcels of Washdirt—*continued.*

Mining Districts.	Mining Surveyors and Registrars' Divisions and Subdivisions.	Tons Puddled or Sluiced.	Total Produce.	Average Yield per Ton.	Remarks.
		tons.	ozs. dwts. grs.	ozs. dwts. grs.	
Maryborough ...	Maryborough Division	26,766 0	5,107 3 0	0 3 19·58	
	Majorca Division	...	...	...	
	Amherst Division	34,217 5	3,767 8 12	0 2 4·84	
	Avoca Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Dunolly and Tarnagulla Divisions ...	565 0	113 0 0	0 4 0	
	Korong Division	...	...	...	
	Redbank and St. Arnaud South Subdivisions	...	...	...	
	St. Arnaud North Subdivision ...	...	...	...	
	Totals	61,548 5	8,987 11 12	0 2 22·09	
Castlemaine ...	Castlemaine Division	8,000 0	88 15 3	0 0 5·32	
	Fryer's Creek Division	218,661 0	4,157 3 0	0 0 9·12	
	Hepburn Division	358,908 0	6,968 0 12	0 0 9·31	
	Taradale and Kyneton Subdivision	4,000 0	300 0 0	0 1 12	
	Tarrangower Division	25,082 0	613 5 13	0 0 11·73	
	St. Andrew's Division	820 0	209 19 12	0 5 2·91	
	Blue Mountain North Subdivision...	...	...	...	
	Totals	615,471 0	12,337 3 16	0 0 9·62	
Ararat	Ararat Division	...	...	...	
	Pleasant Creek Division	...	...	...	
	Barkly Division	50 0	5 16 22	0 2 8·12	
	Raglan Division	2,879 2	624 18 11	0 4 8·18	
	Totals	2,929 2	630 15 9	0 4 7·36	
Gippsland ...	Omeo Subdivision	Nil	Nil	Nil	
	Mitchell River and Boggy Creek Subdivisions				
	Crooked River Division				
	Jericho Division				
	Donnelly's Creek Division ...				
	Stringer's Creek Division				
	Russell's Creek Subdivision ...				
	Bendoc Subdivision				
	Tarwin Subdivision				
	Traralgon Subdivision				
	Totals	Nil	Nil	Nil	

No. 28.

SUMMARY.

Average Yield of Gold from certain parcels of Cement Crushed in 1874 in the several Mining Districts, from Returns made by the Mining Surveyors and Registrars.

Mining Districts.	Quantity Crushed.	Total Produce.	Average Yield per Ton.	Remarks.
	tons.	ozs. dwts. grs.	ozs. dwts. grs.	
Ballarat District	445	97 5 0	0 4 8·89	
Beechworth District	...	...	...	
Sandhurst District	...	...	...	
Maryborough District	8,624	1,532 8 14	0 3 13·29	
Castlemaine District	9,777	1,283 4 22	0 2 15	
Ararat District	16,164	5,876 10 20	0 7 6·50	
Gippsland District	...	...	...	
Totals	35,010	8,789 9 8	0 5 0·50	

Note.—The collection of the statistical information in the above table in a separate form was commenced during the quarter ending 30th June 1872. In previous years it has been included with quartz tailings, mullock, &c., crushed. (See tables Nos. 22 and 23.) From 1872 to 1874, inclusive, 180,361 tons of cement were crushed, and yielded 36,536 ozs. 14 dwts. 1 gr. of gold, being an average of 4 dwts. 1·23 grs. per ton.

No. 29.

TABLE showing the AVERAGE YIELD of GOLD from certain parcels of CEMENT Crushed in 1874 in the several DIVISIONS and SUBDIVISIONS of each Mining District, from Returns made by the Mining Surveyors and Registrars.

Mining Districts	Mining Surveyors and Registrars' Divisions and Subdivisions	Quantity Crushed.	Total Produce.	Average Yield per Ton.	Remarks.
		tons.	ozs. dwts. grs.	ozs. dwts. grs.	
BALLARAT	Central Division	...	...	...	
	Southern Division	325	91 5 0	0 5 14·76	
	Buninyong Division	...	...	...	
	Smythesdale Division	...	...	...	
	Creswick Division	...	...	...	
	Gordon Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Steiglitz Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Blackwood Division and Blue Mountain South Subdivision	120	6 0 0	0 1 0	
	Ballan Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Totals	445	97 5 0	0 4 8·89	
BEECHWORTH	Beechworth Division	Nil	Nil	Nil	
	Yackandandah Division				
	Indigo Division				
	Buckland Division				
	Alexandra Subdivision				
	Dry Creek Subdivision				
	Benalla Subdivision				
	Gaffney's Creek Subdivision				
	Wood's Point Subdivision				
	Big River Subdivision				
	Mitta-mitta Division				
	Jamieson Subdivision				
	Totals	Nil	Nil	Nil	
SANDHURST	Sandhurst Division	Nil	Nil	Nil	
	Kilmore Division				
	Heathcote Division and Waranga South Subdivision				
	Waranga North Subdivision				
	Totals	Nil	Nil	Nil	
MARYBOROUGH	Maryborough Division	8,493	1,505 0 12	0 3 13·05	
	Majorca Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Amherst Division	...	...	...	
	Avoca Subdivision	24	0 13 2	0 0 13·08	
	Dunolly and Tarnagulla Divisions	107	26 15 0	0 5 0	
	Korong Division	...	...	...	
	Redbank and St. Arnaud South Subdivisions	...	...	...	
	St. Arnaud North Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Totals	8,624	1,532 8 14	0 3 13·29	
CASTLEMAINE	Castlemaine Division	...	...	...	
	Fryer's Creek Division	7,560	933 5 0	0 2 11·25	
	Hepburn Division	2,217	349 19 22	0 3 3·77	
	Taradale and Kyneton Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Tarrangower Division	...	...	...	
	St. Andrew's Division	...	...	...	
	Blue Mountain North Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Totals	9,777	1,283 4 22	0 2 15	
ARARAT	Ararat Division	4,250	825 5 8	0 3 21·20	
	Pleasant Creek Division	11,914	5,051 5 12	0 8 11·50	
	Barkly Division	...	...	...	
	Raglan Division	...	...	...	
	Totals	16,164	5,876 10 20	0 7 6·50	
GIPPSLAND	Omeo Subdivision	Nil	Nil	Nil	
	Mitchell River and Boggy Creek Subdivisions				
	Crooked River Division				
	Jericho Division				
	Donnelly's Creek Division				
	Stringer's Creek Division				
	Russell's Creek Subdivision				
	Bendoc Subdivision				
	Tarwin Subdivision				
	Traralgon Subdivision				
	Totals	Nil	Nil	Nil	

No. 30.

SUMMARY.

PRICES charged per Ton for CRUSHING QUARTZ and CEMENT in the several MINING DISTRICTS during the Quarter ended 31st December 1874.

Mining Districts.	From			To		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Ballarat District	0	2	6	0	15	0
Beechworth District	0	4	6	1	8	0
Sandhurst District...	0	6	0	0	10	0
Maryborough District	0	6	0	0	10	0
Castlemaine District	0	2	0	0	15	0
Ararat District	0	5	0	0	9	0
Gippsland District	0	7	6	1	5	0
Lowest and Highest Prices	0	2	0	1	8	0

No. 31.

SUMMARY.

PRICE of GOLD per Ounce in the several MINING DISTRICTS during the Quarter ended 31st December 1874.

Mining Districts.	From			To		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Ballarat District	3	17	0	4	3	0
Beechworth District	3	0	0	4	2	0
Sandhurst District...	3	15	0	4	2	2
Maryborough District	3	0	0	4	2	6
Castlemaine District	3	16	0	4	1	6
Ararat District	3	14	0	4	2	6
Gippsland District	3	0	0	4	0	0
Lowest and Highest Prices	3	0	0	4	3	0

No. 32.

QUANTITY of GOLD EXPORTED during the Year 1874, as returned by the Customs Department.

ozs.
904,154

NOTE.—In addition to the above, 107,998 ozs. 16 dwts. New Zealand gold have been shipped from this colony during the year.

No. 33.

RETURN showing approximately the GOLD obtained from QUARTZ VEINS and ALLUVIAL WORKINGS during the Year 1874.

	ozs.	dwts.
From Quartz Veins	699,663	19
From Alluvial Workings	456,308	0
Total Gold Exported and Minted	1,155,971	19

NOTE.—The above results are but rough approximations. The Mining Surveyors and Registrars can furnish only estimates based on information afforded by the banks and gold-buyers, and on their own knowledge of the character of the workings in their districts. The check on the returns—and not a sufficient one—is that afforded by the returns of quartz and quartz tailings crushed, pyrites operated on, and washdirt and cement treated, which, however, cannot and do not comprise information respecting all the stuff put through the mills.

No. 34.

STATEMENT of VICTORIAN GOLD received at the Melbourne Branch of the ROYAL MINT during the Year 1874, as returned by the Deputy-Master of the Mint.

Gross Weight of Rough Gold.	Gross Weight of Gold Bullion.
ozs.	ozs.
29,391·54	222,426·41

NOTE.—The Mint has no evidence beyond the statement of the depositors that the above is Victorian gold. Gold was first received at the Mint on the 30th April 1872.

No. 35.

RETURN of the Number of GOLD-MINING LEASES in force on the 31st December 1874, and the Extent of GROUND LEASED.

Mining Districts.	Number of Leases.	Extent.		
		A.	R.	P.
Ballarat District	123	4,316	1	30
Beechworth District	182	2,980	2	38¾
Sandhurst District...	850	6,290	2	30½
Maryborough District	291	5,354	0	2
Castlemaine District	308	3,454	0	28½
Ararat District	132	2,362	0	30
Gippsland District	110	1,843	0	34
Totals	1,996	26,601	1	33¾

NOTE.—The total number of Gold-Mining Leases granted since the commencement is 9,524, for an area of 175,868a. 2r. 20¾p. The above table shows those only which were actually in force on the 31st December 1874.

No. 36.

RETURN of the Number of GOLD-MINING LEASES Issued in the Year 1874, and the Extent of GROUND LEASED.

Mining Districts.	Number of Leases.	Extent.		
		A.	R.	P.
Ballarat District	68	1,619	2	25
Beechworth District	59	1,060	2	12¾
Sandhurst District	146	1,459	1	15
Maryborough District	72	1,555	2	17
Castlemaine District	120	1,345	3	11
Ararat District	95	2,633	3	32
Gippsland District	17	280	0	24
Totals	577	9,955	0	16¾

No. 37.

SUMMARY.

AREA of LAND held as CLAIMS under the District Bye-laws, and the portion of the same protected by Registration or by Exemption Certificates, in the several MINING DISTRICTS, on the 31st December 1874.

Mining Districts.	Total Area of Land held as Claims under the Bye-laws.			Aggregate Area of Ground not being worked, being protected by Certificates.		
	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.
Ballarat District	30,837	1	6	2,458	2	36
Beechworth District	9,831	0	0	861	3	0
Sandhurst District...	1,690	2	0	58	0	28
Maryborough District	3,576	2	0	137	3	1
Castlemaine District	3,888	3	11	197	0	11
Ararat District	1,129	0	0	39	0	0
Gippsland District	2,576	3	20	106	2	0
Totals	53,529	3	37	3,858	3	36

NOTE.—The areas given in the second column are included in the first.

No. 38.

TABLE showing the AREA of LAND held as CLAIMS under the District Bye-laws, and the portion of the same not being worked, being protected by Registration or by Exemption Certificates, in the several DIVISIONS and SUBDIVISIONS, on the 31st December 1874.

Mining Districts.	Mining Surveyors and Registrars' Divisions and Subdivisions.	Total Area of Land held as Claims under the Bye-laws.	Aggregate Area of ground not being worked, being protected by Certificates.
		A. R. P.	A. R. P.
BALLARAT	Central Division	16,104 3 17	2,031 1 16
	Southern Division	1,700 0 0	67 3 10
	Buninyong Division	1,759 1 1	19 0 34
	Smythesdale Division	7,395 2 34	80 0 36
	Creswick Division	1,690 3 0	110 1 34
	Gordon Subdivision	81 1 16	68 3 14
	Steiglitz Subdivision	1,490 3 8	24 1 5
	Blackwood Division and Blue Mountain South Subdivision	614 2 10	56 2 7
	Ballan Subdivision	Nil	Nil
	Totals	30,837 1 6	2,458 2 36
BEECHWORTH ...	Beechworth Division	5,400 0 0	96 0 0
	Yackandandah Division	840 0 0	32 0 0
	Indigo Division	1,700 0 0	650 0 0
	Buckland Division	802 0 0	67 2 0
	Alexandra Subdivision	180 0 0	Nil
	Dry Creek Subdivision	230 0 0	Nil
	Benalla Subdivision	Nil	Nil
	Gaffney's Creek Subdivision	64 0 0	1 2 0
	Wood's Point Subdivision	105 0 0	3 3 0
	Big River Subdivision	60 0 0	2 0 0
	Mitta-mitta Division	200 0 0	Nil
	Jamieson Subdivision	250 0 0	9 0 0
	Totals	9,831 0 0	861 3 0
SANDHURST	Sandhurst Division	1,320 0 0	37 2 0
	Kilmore Division	50 0 0	Nil
	Heathcote Division and Waranga South Subdivision ...	320 2 0	20 2 28
	Waranga North Subdivision	...	...
	Totals	1,690 2 0	58 0 28
MARYBOROUGH ...	Maryborough Division	2,402 0 0	39 0 0
	Majorca Subdivision	21 0 0	Nil
	Amherst Division	200 0 0	81 0 0
	Avoca Subdivision	380 0 0	5 2 1
	Dunolly and Tarnagulla Divisions	201 0 0	Nil
	Korong Division	250 0 0	5 0 0
	Redbank and St. Arnaud South Subdivisions	78 0 0	Nil
	St. Arnaud North Subdivision	44 2 0	7 1 0
	Totals	3,576 2 0	137 3 1
CASTLEMAINE ...	Castlemaine Division	213 3 8	10 3 30
	Fryer's Creek Division	500 0 0	3 0 0
	Hepburn Division	2,750 0 0	59 3 28
	Taradale and Kyneton Subdivision	169 3 18	25 0 0
	Tarrangower Division	83 2 3	25 3 13
	St. Andrew's Division	91 1 20	10 1 20
	Blue Mountain North Subdivision	80 1 2	62 0 0
	Totals	3,888 3 11	197 0 11
ARARAT	Ararat Division	209 0 0	12 2 0
	Pleasant Creek Division	600 0 0	25 0 0
	Barkly Division	240 0 0	Nil
	Raglan Division	80 0 0	1 2 0
	Totals	1,129 0 0	39 0 0
GIPPSLAND	Omeo Subdivision	810 1 20	Nil
	Mitchell River and Boggy Creek Subdivisions ...	200 0 0	Nil
	Crooked River Division	664 0 0	56 0 0
	Jericho Division	250 0 0	Nil
	Donnelly's Creek Division	429 0 0	12 0 0
	Stringer's Creek Division	26 0 0	Nil
	Russell's Creek Subdivision	65 2 0	5 2 0
	Bendoc Subdivision	94 0 0	30 0 0
	Tarwin Subdivision	38 0 0	3 0 0
	Traralgon Subdivision	Nil	Nil
	Totals	2,576 3 20	106 2 0

No. 39.

SUMMARY.

ESTIMATED VALUE of CLAIMS and LEASED LANDS in the several MINING DISTRICTS on the 31st December 1874.

Mining Districts.	Estimated Value. £	s.	d.
Ballarat District	623,874	0	0
Beechworth District	295,300	0	0
Sandhurst District	3,258,070	0	0
Maryborough District	360,650	0	0
Castlemaine District	629,792	0	0
Ararat District	1,795,635	0	0
Gippsland District	460,703	0	0
Total	7,424,024	0	0

No. 40.

ESTIMATED VALUE of MINING CLAIMS and LEASED LANDS in the several DIVISIONS and SUBDIVISIONS of each Mining District on the 31st December 1874.

Mining Districts.	Mining Surveyors and Registrars' Divisions and Subdivisions.	Estimated Value. £	s.	d.
BALLARAT	Central Division	184,924	0	0
	Southern Division	23,000	0	0
	Buninyong Division	8,000	0	0
	Smythesdale Division	43,000	0	0
	Creswick Division	208,000	0	0
	Gordon Subdivision	62,950	0	0
	Steiglitz Subdivision	30,000	0	0
	Blackwood Division and Blue Mountain South Subdivision	63,000	0	0
	Ballan Subdivision	1,000	0	0
	Total	623,874	0	0
BEECHWORTH	Beechworth Division	103,800	0	0
	Yackandandah Division	20,000	0	0
	Indigo Division	18,000	0	0
	Buckland Division	41,000	0	0
	Alexandra Subdivision	24,000	0	0
	Dry Creek Subdivision	6,000	0	0
	Benalla Subdivision	...		
	Gaffney's Creek Subdivision	9,700	0	0
	Wood's Point Subdivision	11,800	0	0
	Big River Subdivision	5,000	0	0
	Mitta-mitta Division	6,000	0	0
	Jamieson Subdivision	50,000	0	0
	Total	295,300	0	0
SANDHURST	Sandhurst Division	3,200,000	0	0
	Kilmore Division	15,000	0	0
	Heathcote Division and Waranga South Subdivision	23,070	0	0
	Waranga North Subdivision	20,000	0	0
	Total	3,258,070	0	0
MARYBOROUGH	Maryborough Division	170,000	0	0
	Majorca Subdivision	10,000	0	0
	Amherst Division	13,150	0	0
	Avoca Subdivision	26,700	0	0
	Dunolly and Tarnagulla Divisions	81,000	0	0
	Korong Division	20,000	0	0
	Redbank and St. Arnaud South Subdivision	7,300	0	0
	St. Arnaud North Subdivision	32,500	0	0
	Total	360,650	0	0
CASTLEMAINE	Castlemaine Division	41,680	0	0
	Fryer's Creek Division	95,000	0	0
	Hepburn Division	211,675	0	0
	Taradale and Kyneton Subdivision	123,260	0	0
	Tarrangower Division	136,667	0	0
	St. Andrew's Division	16,510	0	0
	Blue Mountain North Subdivision	5,000	0	0
	Total	629,792	0	0

No. 40.—Estimated Value of Mining Claims, &c.—*continued.*

Mining Districts.	Mining Surveyors and Registrars' Divisions and Subdivisions.	Estimated Value.
		£ s. d.
Ararat	Ararat Division	58,250 0 0
	Pleasant Creek Division	1,711,894 0 0
	Barkly Division	1,300 0 0
	Raglan Division	24,191 0 0
	Total	1,795,635 0 0
Gippsland	Omeo Subdivision	10,280 0 0
	Mitchell River and Boggy Creek Subdivisions	20,500 0 0
	Crooked River Division	6,805 0 0
	Jericho Division	8,000 0 0
	Donnelly's Creek Division	30,800 0 0
	Stringer's Creek Division	372,100 0 0
	Russell's Creek Subdivision	2,250 0 0
	Bendoc Subdivision	6,000 0 0
	Tarwin Subdivision	3,788 0 0
	Traralgon Subdivision	180 0 0
	Total	460,703 0 0

No. 41.

SUMMARY.

Length of Water Races and their Approximate Cost, in the several Mining Districts, on the 31st December 1874.

Mining Districts.	Length of Races.	Approximate Cost.
	miles chains.	£ s. d.
Ballarat District	340 51	31,102 0 0
Beechworth District	1,073 20	185,813 0 0
Sandhurst District	38 0	2,780 0 0
Maryborough District	174 7	4,467 0 0
Castlemaine District	217 24	17,465 0 0
Ararat District	109 0	8,480 0 0
Gippsland District	150 39	13,779 0 0
Totals	2,102 61	263,886 0 0

No. 42.

Table showing the Length of Water Races and their Approximate Cost, in the several Divisions and Subdivisions of each Mining District, on the 31st December 1874.

Mining Districts.	Mining Surveyors and Registrars' Divisions and Subdivisions.	Length of Races.	Approximate Cost.	Remarks.
		miles chains.	£ s. d.	
Ballarat ...	Central Division	54 0	1,404 0 0	
	Southern Division	5 25	233 0 0	
	Buninyong Division	2 0	60 0 0	Nearly all the races in this division are out of use.
	Smythesdale Division	32 60	442 0 0	About 6½ miles of abandoned races.
	Creswick Division	114 46	13,807 0 0	
	Gordon Subdivision	6 0	156 0 0	
	Steiglitz Subdivision	76 0	10,000 0 0	
	Blackwood Division and Blue Mountain South Subdivision ...	50 0	5,000 0 0	1 mile 68 chains of water-races have been cut.
	Ballan Subdivision	Nil	Nil	
	Totals	340 51	31,102 0 0	
Beechworth ...	Beechworth Division	464 0	131,600 0 0	
	Yackandandah Division	250 0	15,000 0 0	Including about 100 miles of abandoned races.
	Indigo Division	Nil	Nil	
	Buckland Division	166 60	12,768 0 0	
	Alexandra Subdivision	13 40	945 0 0	
	Dry Creek Subdivision	10 0	500 0 0	
	Benalla Subdivision	Nil	Nil	
	Gaffney's Creek Subdivision ...	33 0	6,600 0 0	
	Wood's Point Subdivision ...	27 0	6,150 0 0	
	Big River Subdivision	26 0	4,950 0 0	This return includes a large number of races now abandoned, but less so than for the year 1873. Most of the races were constructed when wages were very high.
	Mitta-mitta Division	60 0	4,000 0 0	
	Jamieson Subdivision	23 0	3,300 0 0	
	Totals	1,073 20	185,813 0 0	

No. 42.—Table showing the Length of Water Races, &c.—*continued.*

Mining Districts.	Mining Surveyors and Registrars' Divisions and Subdivisions.	Length of Races.	Approximate Cost.	Remarks.
		miles chains.	£ s. d.	
Sandhurst ...	Sandhurst Division	38 0	2,780 0 0	
	Kilmore Division	Nil	Nil	
	Heathcote Division and Waranga South Subdivision	Nil	Nil	
	Waranga North Subdivision	Nil	Nil	
	Totals	38 0	2,780 0 0	
Maryborough ...	Maryborough Division	Nil	Nil	
	Majorca Subdivision	Nil	Nil	
	Amherst Division	146 0	3,830 0 0	
	Avoca Subdivision	22 52	615 0 0	
	Dunolly and Tarnagulla Divisions	5 35	22 0 0	
	Korong Division	Nil	Nil	
	Redbank and St. Arnaud South Subdivisions	Nil	Nil	
	St. Arnaud North Subdivision	Nil	Nil	
	Totals	174 7	4,467 0 0	
Castlemaine ...	Castlemaine Division	Nil	Nil	
	Fryer's Creek Division	32 60	6,580 0 0	There are in addition about 90 miles of races not in use.
	Hepburn Division	160 0	8,000 0 0	
	Taradale and Kyneton Subdivisions ...	4 20	37 0 0	
	Tarrangower Division	0 52	53 0 0	
	St. Andrew's Division	16 20	2,675 0 0	
	Blue Mountain North Subdivision	3 32	120 0 0	
	Totals	217 24	17,465 0 0	
Ararat	Ararat Division	17 0	520 0 0	
	Pleasant Creek Division	32 0	2,000 0 0	
	Barkly Division	5 0	1,500 0 0	
	Raglan Division	55 0	4,460 0 0	
	Totals	109 0	8,480 0 0	
Gippsland ...	Omeo Subdivision	65 0	8,805 0 0	
	Mitchell River and Boggy Creek Subdivisions	6 0	300 0 0	
	Crooked River Division	34 0	680 0 0	
	Jericho Division	25 0	1,000 0 0	
	Donnelly's Creek Division	12 30	1,400 0 0	
	Stringer's Creek Division	2 23	775 0 0	
	Russell's Creek Subdivision	3 10	210 0 0	Nearly all the races have been abandoned.
	Bendoc Subdivision	1 40	105 0 0	
	Tarwin Subdivision	1 16	504 0 0	
	Traralgon Subdivision	...	...	
	Totals	150 39	13,779 0 0	

No. 43.

Return of the Number of Water-right Licenses in force on the 31st December 1874.

Number.	Area of Races.	Length of Races.	Maximum Quantity of Water to be diverted per diem.	Area of Reservoirs.	Capacity of Reservoirs.	Annual Rent.
	A. R. P.	miles chains.	gallons.	A. R. P.	gallons.	£ s. d.
169	1,316 2 34	394 $43\frac{5}{100}$	193,188,855	91 0 26	201,364,770	966 0 0

No. 44.

The Number of Water-right Licenses for Gold-Mining purposes issued during the Year 1874 is as follows :—

Number.	Area of Races.	Length of Races.	Maximum Quantity of Water to be diverted per diem.	Area of Reservoirs.	Capacity of Reservoirs.	Annual Rent.
	A. R. P.	miles chains.	gallons.	A. R. P.	gallons.	£ s. d.
11	78 0 14	23 $3\frac{58}{100}$	48,624,000	5 2 1	4,039,820	70 0 0

No. 45.

SUMMARY.

RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, and BALANCES in hand during the Year 1874 of Sums lodged with the Wardens' Clerks of the several Mining Districts as Deposits under the Gold and Mineral Lease and Water-right License Regulations.

Mining Districts.	Balances on hand on the 31st December 1873.	Total Deposits received during 1874.	Total Disbursements made during 1874.	Balances on hand on 31st December 1874.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Ballarat	534 8 11	517 17 4	854 4 9	198 1 6
Beechworth	797 9 0	672 11 2	1,145 9 7	324 10 7
Sandhurst	1,221 4 1	634 18 0	1,506 10 9	349 11 4
Maryborough	571 18 1	354 17 3	766 3 0	160 12 4
Castlemaine	661 11 11	726 15 6	1,106 14 3	281 13 2
Ararat	1,026 19 2	381 6 10	921 1 10	487 4 2
Gippsland	321 5 1	373 13 6	388 6 1½	306 12 5½
Totals	5,134 16 3	3,661 19 7	6,688 10 3½	2,108 5 6½

No. 46.

RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, and BALANCES in hand during the Year 1874 of Sums lodged with the Wardens' Clerks of the several DIVISIONS of the Mining Districts as Deposits under the Gold and Mineral Lease and Water-right License Regulations.

Mining Districts.	Divisions.	Balances on hand 31st December 1873.	Total Deposits received during 1874.	Total Disbursements made during 1874.	Balances on hand 31st December 1874.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
BALLARAT	Ballarat	142 12 10	123 2 0	209 8 11	56 5 11
	Buninyong	...	...	...	...
	Smythesdale	11 9 6	...	11 9 6	...
	Creswick	87 7 0	66 15 4	134 2 7	19 19 9
	Gordon	9 13 0	56 19 0	47 16 8	18 15 4
	Steiglitz	129 7 8	62 10 0	163 11 8	28 6 0
	Blackwood	153 18 11	163 11 0	275 1 11	42 8 0
	Clunes	...	45 0 0	12 13 6	32 6 6
	Totals	534 8 11	517 17 4	854 4 9	198 1 6
BEECHWORTH ...	Beechworth	112 13 6	144 0 0	184 0 11	72 12 7
	Yackandandah	192 6 2	35 0 0	184 12 0	42 14 2
	Chiltern	...	...	...	...
	Morse's Creek	91 7 5	151 4 2	183 18 0	58 13 7
	Jamieson	58 12 1	69 0 0	85 5 2	42 6 11
	Wood's Point	114 12 5	152 10 0	198 19 9	68 2 8
	Benalla	...	35 0 0	32 7 4	2 12 8
	Alexandra	179 9 9	85 17 0	227 18 9	37 8 0
	Mansfield	...	...	...	...
	Eldorado	48 7 8	...	48 7 8	...
	Totals	797 9 0	672 11 2	1,145 9 7	324 10 7
SANDHURST	Sandhurst	985 12 7	510 16 0	1,230 19 5	265 9 2
	Kilmore	39 3 8	...	39 3 8	...
	Heathcote	170 6 1	99 10 0	187 13 8	82 2 5
	Waranga	13 13 2	13 6 0	24 19 5	1 19 9
	Graytown	...	...	...	...
	Eaglehawk	12 8 7	11 6 0	23 14 7	...
	Totals	1,221 4 1	634 18 0	1,506 10 9	349 11 4
MARYBOROUGH ...	Maryborough	263 10 4	23 19 0	265 14 10	21 14 6
	Majorca	15 19 0	5 15 0	21 14 0	...
	Talbot	28 4 7	44 4 0	62 15 0	9 13 7
	Carisbrook	...	...	...	...
	Avoca	26 3 11	72 13 0	79 12 11	19 4 0
	Dunolly	27 8 6	65 10 0	74 11 5	18 7 1
	Tarnagulla	10 4 6	13 11 0	20 1 9	3 13 9
	Korong	...	...	...	...
	Inglewood	131 0 2	76 15 0	146 3 2	61 12 0
	St. Arnaud	69 7 1	52 10 3	95 9 11	26 7 5
	Totals	571 18 1	354 17 3	766 3 0	160 12 4

No. 46.—Receipts, Disbursements, and Balances in hand during the Year 1874 of Sums lodged with the Wardens' Clerks, &c.—*continued.*

Mining Districts.	Divisions.	Balances on hand 31st December 1873.	Total Deposits received during 1874.	Total Disbursements made during 1874.	Balances on hand 31st December 1874.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Castlemaine	Castlemaine	204 10 5	230 10 0	353 13 5	81 7 0
	Fryerstown...	93 16 4	73 0 0	115 14 4	51 2 0
	Daylesford	121 19 10	73 16 0	139 17 0	55 18 10
	Taradale	10 15 0	...	10 15 0	...
	Maldon	80 13 8	88 12 0	135 1 10	34 3 10
	Anderson's Creek	74 8 8	242 17 6	268 4 8	49 1 6
	Trentham	...	13 0 0	13 0 0	...
	Kyneton	75 8 0	5 0 0	70 8 0	10 0 0
	Totals	661 11 11	726 15 6	1,106 14 3	281 13 2
Ararat	Ararat	80 17 8	98 15 0	125 2 5	54 10 3
	Beaufort	173 3 4	116 0 0	230 15 2	58 8 2
	Stawell	742 1 11	153 3 10	521 0 0	374 5 9
	Landsborough	30 16 3	13 8 0	44 4 3	...
	Totals	1,026 19 2	381 6 10	921 1 10	487 4 2
Gippsland	Omeo	...	...	...	...
	Grant	1 15 0	17 0 0	16 18 5	1 16 7
	Bairnsdale	102 19 9	58 13 6	86 10 0	75 3 3
	Sale	48 0 0	...	48 0 0	...
	Stringer's Creek	56 13 0	269 0 0	156 6 6½	169 6 5½
	Corner Inlet and Foster ...	111 17 4	20 0 0	80 11 2	51 6 2
	Jericho	...	9 0 0	...	9 0 0
	Totals	321 5 1	373 13 6	388 6 1½	306 12 5½

No. 47.

Return of the Quantities of Gunpowder Issued, &c., on the several Goldfields during the Year 1874.

Mining Districts.	Quantity in Stock at the commencement of the Year.	Quantity Issued during the Year.	Quantity in Stock at the end of the Year.
	tons cwt. qrs. lbs.	tons cwt. qrs. lbs.	tons cwt. qrs. lbs.
Ballarat District	9 2 1 13	48 1 3 17	12 0 2 6
Beechworth District	2 6 1 20	10 8 1 6	2 7 1 13
Sandhurst District	29 8 0 13	165 12 1 3	35 1 1 24
Maryborough District	4 2 1 13	12 4 3 26	4 16 0 23
Castlemaine District	10 3 2 8	38 0 0 5	11 10 1 2
Ararat District	5 17 2 10	32 14 1 14	5 18 1 16
Gippsland District	...	1 7 1 23	1 6 0 13
Totals	61 0 1 21	308 9 1 10	73 0 1 13

No. 48.

SUMMARY.

Mining Companies Registered in the Office of the Registrar-General during the Year 1874.

Mining Districts.	Number of Companies.	Number of Shares.	Nominal Capital.
			£ s. d.
Ballarat District	50	271,560	426,235 0 0
Beechworth District	14	320,800	209,800 0 0
Sandhurst District	24	585,138	316,840 0 0
Maryborough District	8	117,600	88,800 0 0
Castlemaine District	21	390,000	274,160 0 0
Ararat District	13	187,504	184,678 0 0
Gippsland District	13	96,200	91,700 0 0
Totals	143	1,968,802	1,592,213 0 0

Note.—For information relative to companies registered and companies wound-up previous to 1st January 1874, *see* Tables Nos. 48 and 49, *Mineral Statistics* 1873.

Eight companies were wound-up during the year, of which the aggregate nominal number of shares was 214,000, and the aggregate nominal capital £111,000.

No. 49.

MINING COMPANIES REGISTERED in the Office of the Registrar-General during the Year 1874.

Mining Districts.	Divisions and Subdivisions.	Number of Companies.	Number of Shares.	Nominal Capital.	Remarks.
				£ s. d.	
BALLARAT ...	Central Division	18	90,600	101,635 0 0	
	Southern Division	...	...	...	
	Buninyong Division	...	...	...	
	Smythesdale Division	1	2,000	5,000 0 0	
	Creswick Division	15	65,400	52,600 0 0	
	Gordon Subdivision	3	30,080	122,000 0 0	
	Steiglitz Subdivision	4	7,480	58,500 0 0	
	Blackwood Division and Blue Mountain South Subdivision	9	76,000	86,500 0 0	
	Ballan Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Totals	50	271,560	426,235 0 0	
BEECHWORTH ...	Beechworth Division	1	16,000	4,000 0 0	
	Yackandandah Division	...	...	...	
	Indigo Division	1	50,000	50,000 0 0	
	Buckland Division	1	24,000	30,000 0 0	
	Alexandra Subdivision	4	62,800	33,800 0 0	
	Dry Creek Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Benalla Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Gaffney's Creek Subdivision ...	2	75,000	50,000 0 0	
	Wood's Point Subdivision... ...	3	39,000	15,000 0 0	
	Big River Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Mitta-mitta Division	...	...	...	
	Jamieson Subdivision	2	54,000	27,000 0 0	
	Totals	14	320,800	209,800 0 0	
SANDHURST ...	Sandhurst Division	22	551,138	287,840 0 0	
	Kilmore Division	1	10,000	5,000 0 0	
	Heathcote Division and Waranga South Subdivision	1	24,000	24,000 0 0	
	Waranga North Subdivision ...	...	...	...	
	Totals	24	585,138	316,840 0 0	
MARYBOROUGH ...	Maryborough Division	4	52,600	35,800 0 0	
	Majorca Subdivision	1	3,000	3,000 0 0	
	Amherst Division	...	...	...	
	Avoca Subdivision	1	10,000	10,000 0 0	
	Dunolly and Tarnagulla Divisions ...	...	...	...	
	Korong Division	1	24,000	12,000 0 0	
	Redbank and St. Arnaud South Subdivisions	...	...	...	
	St. Arnaud North Subdivision ...	1	28,000	28,000 0 0	
	Totals	8	117,600	88,800 0 0	
CASTLEMAINE ...	Castlemaine Division	5	126,000	84,000 0 0	
	Fryer's Creek Division	5	112,000	74,000 0 0	
	Hepburn Division	4	21,400	22,400 0 0	
	Taradale and Kyneton Subdivision...	2	36,600	17,160 0 0	
	Tarrangower Division	1	24,000	24,000 0 0	
	St. Andrew's Division	3	50,000	32,600 0 0	
	Blue Mountain North Subdivision...	1	20,000	20,000 0 0	
	Totals	21	390,000	274,160 0 0	
ARARAT	Ararat Division	2	45,000	35,000 0 0	
	Pleasant Creek Division	6	91,804	114,128 0 0	
	Barkly Division	2	37,500	18,750 0 0	
	Raglan Division	3	13,200	16,800 0 0	
	Totals	13	187,504	184,678 0 0	
GIPPSLAND ...	Omeo Subdivision	1	2,400	1,200 0 0	
	Mitchell River and Boggy Creek Subdivisions	...	...	...	
	Crooked River Division	...	...	...	
	Jericho Division	...	...	...	
	Donnelly's Creek Division... ...	2	6,800	6,800 0 0	
	Stringer's Creek Division	6	58,000	57,200 0 0	
	Russell's Creek Subdivision ...	2	15,000	13,500 0 0	
	Bendoc Subdivision	1	4,000	8,000 0 0	
	Tarwin Subdivision	1	10,000	5,000 0 0	
	Traralgon Subdivision	...	...	...	
	Totals	13	96,200	91,700 0 0	

No. 50.

RETURN of MINERS' RIGHTS and BUSINESS LICENSES issued in Victoria during the Year 1874.

Place or District where issued.	Miners' Rights.										Business Licenses.					Total Receipts.
	1 Year at 5s.	2 Years at 10s.	3 Years at 15s.	4 Years at 20s.	5 Years at 25s.	7 Years at 35s.	Consolidated Miners' Rights. Number.	Consolidated Miners' Rights. Representing Single Rights at 5s.	Miners' Rights ante-dated. Fee 5s.	Amount received.	6 Months at 50s.	12 Months at 100s.	Transfers at 10s.	Business Licenses ante-dated. Fee 25 per cent. on License.	Amount received.	
										£ s. d.					£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Mining District of Ballarat	7,774	...	...	...	...	...	46	1,110	90	2,243 10 0	147	...	...	...	367 10 0	2,611 0 0
Mining District of Beechworth	3,611	...	...	...	...	...	8	122	..	933 5 0	83	1	...	...	212 10 0	1,145 15 0
Mining District of Sandhurst	3,196	3	...	2	...	...	22	124	4	834 10 0	55	...	...	...	137 10 0	972 0 0
Mining District of Maryborough	2,848	...	...	...	...	...	2	47	...	723 15 0	130	...	...	...	325 0 0	1,048 15 0
Mining District of Castlemaine	2,680	...	...	1	1	...	3	24	9	680 10 0	46	...	...	...	115 0 0	795 10 0
Mining District of Ararat	2,313	3	1	4	1	1	8	105	25	620 0 0	20*	...	...	...	50 12 6	670 12 6
Mining District of Gippsland	1,318	...	...	3	...	...	3	16	...	336 10 0	47	...	...	...	117 10 0	454 0 0
Melbourne	211	...	...	...	1	...	5	29	6	62 15 0	3	...	...	...	7 10 0	70 5 0
Totals	23,951	6	1	10	3	1	97	1,577	134	6,434 15 0	531*	1	...	...	1,333 2 6	7,767 17 6

NOTE.—The figures in this Table do not necessarily agree with those in Table No. 51.

* 1 at a premium of 12s. 6d. under *The Mining Statute* 1865.

No. 51.

STATEMENT of the REVENUE directly derived from the Goldfields during the Year 1874, compiled from the Treasury Statements of Revenue, &c.

	£ s. d.
Amount received for Miners' Rights	6,707 15 0
Amount received for Business Licenses	1,433 12 6
Amount received for Leases of Auriferous and Mineral Lands	13,805 0 1
Amount received for Water-right and Searching Licenses	1,142 15 0
Total	£23,089 2 7

NOTE.—Moneys received from holders of and applicants for Mining Leases under the heads of fees, fines, and forfeitures, are not included in this return.

No. 52.

TABLE showing the WAGES paid per Week for different kinds of LABOR in the several DIVISIONS and SUBDIVISIONS of each Mining District during the Year 1874, from Returns made by the Mining Surveyors and Registrars.

Mining Districts.	Mining Surveyors and Registrars' Divisions and Subdivisions	General Manager.	Legal Manager.	Mining Manager.	Engineer.	Engine-driver.	Pitman.	Blacksmith.	Carpenter.	Foreman of Shift.	Miner.	Surface Man (Laborer).	Boy.	Chinese.
BALLARAT.	Central Division	£4	£2 to £2 10s.	£3 10s.	£3	£2 2s. 6d. to £2 5s.	£2 2s. 6d.	£2 5s. to £2 10s.	£2 10s. to £2 14s.	..	£2	£2	12s. to £1 5s.	£1 5s. to £1 10s.
	Southern Division	£4	£2	£4	..	£2 5s.	..	£2 2s. to £2 10s.	£2 8s. to £3	£2 8s.	£2 2s. to £2 5s.	£2 2s.	£1 10s.	..
	Buninyong Division	£3 to £4 10s.	£1 10s.	£3 to £5	£3 to £5	£2 to £2 5s.	£2 5s.	£2 5s. to £2 7s. 6d	£2 5s. to £3	£2 10s.	£2 to £2 2s. 6d.	£1 10s.	£1 5s. to £1 10s.	£1 10s. to £1 11s.
	Smythesdale Division	£3 5s. to £6	£4 10s.	£4 10s.	£3 10s.	£2 5s. to £2 10s.	£3	£2 7s. to £3	£2 2s. to £3	£2 2s. to £2 12s.	£2 2s.	£2 2s. to £2 5s.	£1 10s. to £1 16s.	£1 12s.
	Creswick Division	£2 10s. to £15 8s.	£2 to £6	£3 10s. to £5 10s.	£2 10s. to £3 18s.	£2 2s. to £2 18s. 4d	£2 10s. to £3	£2 5s. to £3 6s.	£2 5s. to £3	£2 8s. to £2 10s.	£2 2s. to £2 5s.	£1 10s. to £2 5s.	£1 to £1 10s.	£1 8s.
	Gordon Subdivision	..	£2 to £2 10s.	£2 10s. to £4	£2 7s. 6d.	£2 5s.	..	£2 2s. to £2 10s.	£2 2s.	..	£2 2s. to £2 5s.	£2 to £2 2s.	£1 10s. to £1 15s.	..
	Steiglitz Subdivision	£5	£2 to £2 10s.	£3 10s.	..	£2 5s. to £2 15s.	£2 5s.	..	..	..	£2 5s.	£2 2s.	18s.	..
	Blackwood Division and Blue Mountain South Subdivision	..	£1 to £3 10s.	£1 to £5 10s.	£4	£2 2s. to £2 5s.	£2 5s.	£2 10s. to £3	£2 10s. to £3	£2 10s.	£2 2s.	£2 2s.	10s. to £1 4s.	£1 to £1 16s.
	Ballan Subdivision	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£2 5s.	..	..	..
BEECHWORTH.	Beechworth Division	£3 10s. to £5	£1 to £2	£3 10s. to £5	£3 10s.	£2 18s. to £3	..	£2 18s.	£2 18s.	£3	£2 2s. to £2 15s.	£2 5s.	£1 10s. to £1 16s.	£1 10s. to £1 16s.
	Yackandandah Division	£5	..	£3 10s.	£4	£3	£2 10s.	£3	£3 12s.	£3	£2 10s.	£2 2s.	£1 10s.	£1 16s.
	Indigo Division	£4 to £7	£2	£4 to £7	£3 10s. to £5	£2 15s. to £3	..	£2 12s. to £3	£2 15s. to £3	£2 10s. to £3 10s.	£2 to £3	£2 to £2 10s.	£1 to £1 10s.	£1 10s. to £2 5s.
	Buckland Division	..	£2 2s. to £3 3s.	£4 to £9	£3	£3	..	£3 to £3 12s.	£3	£3 10s.	£2 10s.	£2 10s.	£1 5s.	£1 15s. to £1 16s.
	Alexandra Subdivision	..	10s. to £2	£3 10s. to £5	£2 10s. to £3 10s.	£2 10s. to £3	..	£3	..	£2 10s. to £3	£2 10s.	£2 10s.	15s. to £1 10s.	..
	Dry Creek Subdivision	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Benalla Subdivision	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Gaffney's Creek Subdivision	£6	£1 to £1 10s.	£4	£4	£3	£2 10s.	£3 10s.	£3 10s.	£2 15s.	£2 10s.	£2	£1 10s.	£1 15s.
	Wood's Point Subdivision	£6 to £7	10s. to £1 10s.	£4 to £4 10s.	£4 10s.	£3	£2 10s.	£3 10s.	£3 10s.	£2 15s.	£2 10s.	£2	£1 10s.	..
	Big River Subdivision	£5	£1 to £1 10s.	£4 to £4 10s.	£4 10s.	£3	£2 10s.	£3 10s. to £4	£3 10s. to £4	£2 15s.	£2 10s.	£2 10s.	£1 10s.	£2
	Mitta-mitta Division	..	..	..	..	..	..	£4	£3	..	£2 10s.	£2 5s.	12s.	£1 5s.
	Jamieson Subdivision	..	15s.	£3 15s. to £5 10s.	£3 to £4	£3	..	..	..	£3 10s.	£2 10s.	£2 10s.	..	..
SANDHURST.	Sandhurst Division	£4 to £8	10s. to £3	£3 to £5	£3 to £5	£2 2s. to £3	£2 15s.	£3 to £3 12s.	£3 to £3 12s.	£2 10s. to £2 15s.	£2 5s. to £2 10s.	£2	10s. to £1 10s.	..
	Kilmore Division	£3	£1	£3	£2 10s.	£2 10s.	£2 5s.	£2 5s.	..	£2 10s.	£2 5s.	..	..	..
	Heathcote Division and Waranga South Subdivision	..	£2	£5 to £6	£3	£2 15s. to £3	£2 5s.	£2 15s. to £3	£2 10s. to £3	£2 10s.	£2 5s.	£2 to £2 5s.	15s. to £1	..
	Waranga North Subdivision	..	..	£4	..	£2 10s.	..	..	..	..	£2 5s. to £2 10s.	£2	..	..
MARYBOROUGH.	Maryborough Division	..	£1 5s.	£5 to £6	£3 to £3 10s.	£2 10s.	£2 10s. to £3	£2 10s. to £3	£2 10s. to £2 15s.	£2 10s.	£2 5s.	£2	£1 to £1 15s.	£1 10s.
	Majorca Subdivision	£3 10s.	£1 5s.	£3	£3	£2 10s.	£2 10s.	£2 10s.	£2 10s.	£2 10s.	£2 5s.	£2	£1 10s.	..
	Amherst Division	..	£1	..	..	£2 2s. to £3	..	£2 2s. to £2 10s.	..	..	£2 5s.	..	£1	..
	Avoca Subdivision	£1	£1	£4 to £5	£3	£2 5s.	£2 10s.	£3	£3	£2 10s.	£2 5s.	£2 2s.	£1	..
	Dunolly and Tarnagulla Divisions	..	£1 10s. to £2 10s.	£3	£3 10s.	£2 15s. to £3	..	£2 10s. to £3	..	..	£2 5s. to £2 10s.	£2 to £2 5s.	£1	..
	Korong Division	£4 10s.	£1	£3	£3	£3	£2 10s.	£3	£3	£2 10s.	£2 5s.	£2 2s.	£1	..
	Redbank and St. Arnaud South Subdivisions	£1	£1	£4	..	£2 2s.	£2 10s.	£2 10s.	..	..	£2 5s.	..	£1 10s.	..
	St. Arnaud North Subdivision	..	£1 10s. to £2	£4	..	£3	..	£3	£3	..	£2 10s.	£2 5s.	..	..
CASTLEMAINE.	Castlemaine Division	£3 10s. to £7	10s. to £1 10.	£2 10s. to £5	£3 to £4	£1 10s. to £2 8s.	£2 to £2 5s.	£2 2s. to £2 14s.	£2 14s. to £3	£2 2s. to £2 10s.	£1 16s. to £2 2s.	£1 10s. to £1 16s.	8s. to £1	12s. to 15s.
	Fryer's Creek Division	£2 2s. to £3.	£1	£2 2s. to £4	..	£2 5s. to £2 12s.	..	£2 2s. to £2 10s.	£2 5s. to £3	..	£2 2s. to £2 5s.	£2	£1 to £1 12s. 6d.	..
	Hepburn Division	..	£1 10s. to £3	£3 10s. to £6	£3	£2 5s. to £2 10s.	£2 10s. to £3	£2 10s. to £3	£2 10s.	..	£2 5s.	£1 15s.	15s. to £1 16s.	..
	Taradale and Kyneton Subdivision	..	£1 to £2	£3 10s. to £4	£2 10s.	£2 5s. to £2 10s.	£2 5s.	£2 10s.	£2 10s.	£2 5s.	£2 5s.	£2	£1 10s.	..
	Tarrangower Division	£2 15s. to £6.	£1 10s.	£3	£3 10s.	£2 10s.	£3	£3	£3	£2 10s.	£2 5s.	£2	£1	..
	St. Andrew's Division	..	£2	£4 10s.	£2 2s.	£2 2s.	£2 5s.	£2 2s.	£2 8s.	£2 10s.	£2 2s.	£2	12s.	£1
	Blue Mountain North Subdivision	£3 10s.	..	£3 10s.	..	£2 10s.	£2 8s.	£2 10s.	£2 10s.	£2 10s.	£2 5s.	£2 2s.	£1	..
ARARAT.	Ararat Division	..	£2	£3 10s. to £4 10s.	£5	£2 10s. to £3	£2 5s. to £2 10s.	£2 10s. to £3	£2 10s. to £3	£2 15s.	£2 5s. to £2 10s.	£2 to £2 2s.	£1 to £1 10s.	£1 to £1 10s.
	Pleasant Creek Division	£6	£3 to £5	£3 10s. to £6	£4 10s. to £6	£3	£2 8s. to £2 10s.	£3 to £4 10s.	£3 10s. to £3 12s.	£2 18s. to £3	£2 8s. to £2 10s.	£2 8s.	£1 9s. to £1 10s.	..
	Barkly Division	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£2 7s. 6d.	..	17s. 6d.	..
	Raglan Division	..	£1	£3 10s. to £4	£3 10s.	£2 10s.	£2 10s.	£2 10s.	£2 5s.	..	£2 to £2 5s.	£2 to £2 5s.	15s. to £1 10s.	£1 5s. to £1 10s.
GIPPSLAND.	Omeo Subdivision	..	£1	£4	..	..	..	..	..	..	£2 10s.	..	..	£1 16s.
	Mitchell River and Boggy Creek Subdivisions	..	£1 to £1 10s.	£4	£3 to £3 10s.	£2 10s. to £3	£2 10s.	£2 15s. to £3	£2 10s. to £2 15s.	£2 15s.	£2 8s. to £2 10s.	£2 to £2 10s.	£1	£1 5s. to £1 10s.
	Crooked River Division	£6	£2	..	£3 10s.	£3	..	£3	£3	..	£2 15s.	..	..	..
	Jericho Division	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Donnelly's Creek Division	..	£1 to £2	£4	£5 to £6	£3	..	£3 12s. to £4 10s.	£3 12s. to £4 10s.	£3 to £3 5s.	£3	£3	..	..
	Stringer's Creek Division	£10	£1 to £1 10s.	£5 to £6	£4 10s. to £5	£3	£3 10s.	£3 10s. to £4	£4	£3 10s.	£2 10s. to £3	£2 10s. to £3	15s. to £2 10s.	..
	Russell's Creek Subdivision	£5	£1	£3 10s.	£4	£3	£2 10s.	£3 10s.	£3 10s.	£3	£2 10s.	£2 5s.	£1 10s.	..
	Bendoc Subdivision	£7	..	£5	..	£3	..	..	£2 10s.	..	£2 to £2 10s.	£1 10s.	..	..
	Tarwin Subdivision	..	£1	£4	£3	£2 10s.	£2 10s.	£2 10s.	£2 10s.	£2 10s.	£2 10s.	£2 10s.	£1 5s.	..
	Traralgon Subdivision	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

No. 53.

THE PRICES of MINING MATERIALS in some of the more important MINING CENTRES are as follow :—

BALLARAT.—Castings : Iron puddling machines, 20s. per cwt. ; lift pumps, 16 in. to 22 in., including workings and connections, 26s. per cwt. ; winding and pumping gear, 35s. per cwt. ; water-pipe, 17s. per cwt. ; stamping batteries, with iron frames and fittings connected with 10 stamps, say 10 cwt. per stamp or hammer, according to construction or design, 40 in., iron with wood framing, £40 per head. Gas-pipe, ¾ in. to 2 in., 6d. to 1s. 9d. per foot. Iron rivets, 42s. to 65s. per cwt. Chains, tested, round, sizes $\frac{5}{16}$ in. to 1 in., imported, 35s. to 60s. per cwt.; ditto, ditto, made at Ballarat, 70s. per cwt. Rope : Flat wire, 3 in. and 4 in. x ⅝ in., 70s. per cwt. ; flat hemp, 4½ in. to 6 in., 80s. per cwt. ; flat manilla, 76s. to 80s. per cwt. ; round manilla, 74s. per. cwt., different sizes. Powder, glazed blasting, 8d. per lb. Fuze : Single tape, 11s. per dozen coils ; double tape, 12s. 6d. per dozen coils. Candles, sperm, 13s. per dozen lbs. Oil : Olive, 7s. per gall. ; colza, 6s. 6d. per gall ; castor, 6s. per gall. ; kerosene, 2s. 6d. per gall. Tallow, beef and mutton, 42s. per cwt. Quicksilver, 8s. per lb. Picks : Single-ended, driving and sinking, 42s. to 60s. per dozen ; double-ended 90s. per dozen. Pick-hilts : Hickory, 15s. per dozen ; colonial, lightwood, 8s. to 12s. per dozen. Shovels : Long or D-handled, 80s. per dozen ; Cornish, socket-handled, 52s. to 56s. per dozen. Shovel-handles : English, 18s. per dozen ; colonial, 14s. per dozen. White yarn : Flax packing, 1s. 6d. per lb. ; hemp packing, 11d. per lb. Iron : Common, 21s. per cwt. ; best Low Moor, 42s. per cwt. Leather : Colonial, for pumps, 2s. per lb. ; English, 3s. 6d. per lb. ; belt leather, colonial, 2s. 3d. per lb. Guttapercha, sheet, for pump-clacks, 5s. per lb ; tubing, 9s. per lb. Steel : Cast, 70s. per cwt. ; blister, 56s. per cwt. ; shear, 70s. per cwt. ; spring, 42s. per. cwt. ; Stubbs' No. 2, 112s. per cwt.

CRESWICK.—Castings : Stamp-head and beds, 19s to 20s. per cwt.; wheels, &c., 22s to 24s. per cwt. Hemp rope, 3 in. to 8 in., 54s. to 70s. per cwt. Blasting powder, 10d. to 1s. per lb. Fuze, 15s. per dozen coils. Candles, 11s. to 12s. per dozen lbs. Oil : Colza, 5s. 6d. to 7s. per gall. ; machine, 6s. 6d. per gall. Tallow, 37s. to 40s. per cwt. Quicksilver, 6s. 6d. to 8s. 6d. per lb. Picks, 48s. to 78s. per dozen. Pick-handles, 11s. to 16s. per dozen. Shovels, long-handled, 72s. to 88s. per dozen. Leather, English, for pumps, 2s. 6d. to 3s. 3d. per lb. Cotton waste, 7½d. to 8d. per lb. Iron, common, 22s. to 23s. per cwt. Steel : Cast, 74s. per cwt. ; blister, 65s. per cwt. Sheet indiarubber, 4s. to 5s. 6d. per lb.

BRIGHT.—Castings, plain, 29s, per cwt. Hemp rope, 84s. per cwt. ; wire rope, 60s. per cwt. Chains, small and medium, 56s. per cwt. Blasting powder, 9d. per lb. Indiarubber double tape fuze, 15s. per dozen coils. Best sperm candles, 13s. per dozen lbs. Oil : Colza, 8s. per gall. ; Chinese, 8s. per gall. ; olive, 8s. 6d. per gall. ; kerosene, 3s. 3d. per gall. Quicksilver, 8s. per lb. Collins' double picks, 84s. per dozen. Pick-handles, 20s. per dozen. Best long-handled shovels (Ames'), 96s. per dozen ; best long-handled shovels (Sharp's), 72s. per dozen ; best long-handled shovels (Collins'), 72s. per dozen ; best short-handled shovels, 78s. per dozen. Leather : Colonial, by the hide, 1s. 6d. per lb. ; in belting, 2s. per lb. Common iron, 37s. 4d. per cwt. Steel : Octagon, 75s. per cwt.; blistered, 70s. per cwt. [Carriage, £6 10s. to £7 per ton.]

WOOD'S POINT.—Castings of white metal, 42s. 6d. per cwt.; extra size ditto, 110s. to 120s. per cwt. Powder, best glazed, 100s. per 100 lbs. Fuze, 15s. to 16s. per dozen coils. Candles, 16s. per dozen lbs. Oil : Castor, 10s. per gall. ; olive, 10s. per gall. Quicksilver (in private hands only), 7s. 3d. to 7s. 6d. per lb. Mining pick-heads, 20s. per dozen. Pick-handles, 18s. per dozen. Shovels : Long-handled, 120s. per dozen ; short-handled, 100s. per dozen. Leather, belting and grain, 1s. 6d. per lb. Vulcanized indiarubber belting, four-ply, 4s. 3d. to 4s. 6d. per foot. Iron, best wrought, 45s. per cwt. Steel : Cast, 80s. to 90s. per cwt. ; blister, 85s. per cwt. Nuts, bolts, screws, &c., 1s. per lb.

SANDHURST.—Stamper-boxes, 24s. per cwt. Stamper-heads, 18s. per cwt. Stamper-shoes, 20s per cwt. Discs, cast-iron, 24s. per cwt. Cliff's patent discs, 60s. each. Belt pulleys, 30s. per cwt. Bar-iron, BBH, 22s. 6d per cwt. Octagon steel, 56s. per cwt. Piping, £18 per ton. Water-pipe, English, £17 10s. per ton. Cams, 10d. per lb. Quicksilver, 8s. per lb. Sheet copper, 1s. 8d. per lb. Candles : Colonial, 11¼d. per lb. ; sperm, 1s. 1d. per lb. ; tallow, 3½d. to 4d. per lb. Powder : Colonial, 6½d. per lb. ; Hall's, 8d. per lb. Pump leather, English, 3s. per lb. Engine-packing, 1s. 6d. per lb. Cotton waste, 7d. per lb. Bolts and nuts, 8d. per lb. Sheet indiarubber, 4s. to 6s. per lb. Copper rivets, 3s. per lb. Nails, average, 33s. per cwt., per keg. Punched gratings, 1s. per square foot. Shovels : S.H., 80s. per dozen ; L.H., 84s. per dozen. Pick-handles, 15s. per dozen ; pick-handles, colonial, 9s. per dozen. Oil : Neatsfoot, 6s. per gall. ; castor, 5s. 6d. per gall. ; kerosene, 2s. 10d. per gall. Lithofracteur, 3s. 6d. per lb. Fuze : Double, 11s. per dozen ; single, 9s. per dozen. Leather : Belting, single, 4s. 6d. per foot ; double, 8s. per foot.

MARYBOROUGH.—Castings : Whim and truck wheels, 18s. per cwt. ; chains, 65s. per cwt. Rope, manilla, 74s. per cwt. Fuze, per dozen coils, 15s. per cwt. Powder, blasting, 75s. per 100 lbs. Candles, sperm, 12s. per dozen lbs. Oil : Colza, 7s. per gall. ; castor, 6s. per gall. ; olive, 8s. per gall. ; kerosene, 2s. 6d. per gall. Quicksilver, 8s. per lb. Iron, BBH, 25s. per cwt. Steel : Cast, 75s. per cwt ; blister, 56s. per cwt. ; shear, 75s. per cwt. Leather : English, belt, 3s. 3d. to 3s. 6d. per lb. ; colonial, belt, 1s. 9d. to 2s. 3d. per lb. Tallow : Mutton, 31s. per cwt. ; beef, 30s. per cwt. Green hides, for buckets, 30s. each. Picks, for driving or sinking, single ends, 30s. to 60s. per. dozen. Pick-hilts, colonial, 7s. 6d. per dozen. Shovels, American, 66s. to 72s. per dozen.

CASTLEMAINE.—Castings : Heavy, as stampers, &c., 21s. per cwt. ; wheels, &c., 22s. 6d. to 24s. per cwt. ; pipes, 22s. per cwt. Iron, BBH, 21s. per cwt. Steel : Cast, 61s. per cwt. ; blister, 56s. per cwt. Rope, manilla, 70s. per cwt. Tallow, refined, 51s. 3d. per cwt. Powder (Hall's), 66s. 8d. per 100 lbs. Fuze, D.T., 11s. 6d. per dozen coils. Pick-hilts, hickory, 14s. per dozen. Shovels, American, 60s. to 84s. per dozen. Oil : Colza, 6s. 6d. per gall. ; olive, 7s. per gall. ; castor, 6s. per gall. Leather : Colonial, 2s. 9d. per lb. ; English, 3s. per lb. Cotton waste, 7½d. per lb. Candles, sperm, 10s. to 12s. per dozen lbs.

TARRANGOWER.—Castings : Stamp-heads, 30s. per cwt. Chains, ⅝ in. to ⅞ in., 5½d. per lb. Rope, manilla, 8d. per lb. ; wire, 6d. per lb. Blasting powder, 8½d. to 9d. per lb. Fuze, 12s. 6d. per dozen coils. Candles : Sperm, 11d. to 1s. per lb. ; tallow, 5d. to 6d. per lb. Oil : Colza, 6s. to 6s. 6d. per gall. ; kerosene, 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6s. per gall. ; olive, 7s. per gall. Cotton waste, 8d. per lb. Picks, 1s. to 1s. 3d. per lb. Pick-handles, 15s. per dozen. Pick-handles, colonial wood, 12s. per dozen. Shovels : English, 5s. to 5s. 6d. each ; American, 6s. to 7s. each. Leather : English butts, 3s. per lb. ; colonial, 2s. 9d. per lb. Flax, 2s. 9d. per lb. Spun yarn, 8d. per lb. Iron, wrought, 22s. 6d. per cwt. Bar steel, 6d. per lb. Quicksilver, 8s. per lb.

ARARAT.—Iron : Castings, 3d. to 4d. per lb. ; fire-bars, 28s. per cwt. ; truck-wheels, 32s. per cwt. Manilla rope, 7 inch, 75s. to 80s. per cwt. Blasting powder, 8d. per lb. Fuze, 14s. per dozen. Candles, stearine, 1s. per lb. Colza oil, 7s. per gall. Tallow, 30s. per cwt. Pick-handles, she-oak, 8s. per dozen. Short-handled shovels, 66s. to 72s. per dozen. Leather, English butts, 3s. 6d. per lb. Bar iron, BBH, 26s. per cwt. Steel, cast, 70s. per cwt. Hardwood, 3 in. x 2 in. measurement, 7s. 6d. per 100 feet. ; 6 in. x ½ in. measurement, 7s. per 100 feet.

PLEASANT CREEK.—Lift pumps, 12 in. to 22 in., including working and connection, 38s. per cwt. Winding and pumping gear, 40s. per cwt. Water-pipes, 26s. per cwt. Stamping batteries and iron frames, with fitting connected to say 30 stamps of 7 cwt. 2 qrs. per stamp, £50 to £65. Gas-pipes, ¾ in. to 2 in., 6d. to 1s. 8d. per foot. Iron rivets, 50s. to 57s. per cwt. Manilla rope, round, 72s. per cwt. Blasting powder, glazed, Kame's, 7d ; Hall's, 7½d. per lb. Dynamite, 4s. 6d. per lb. Kreb Brothers patent lithofracteur, 4s. per lb. by the case of 53 lbs. Gun cotton, 85s. per 500 charges. Candles : Sperm, Brandon's, 11s. 3d. per dozen lbs.; DRJ, 11s. 6d. per dozen lbs : colonial, 10s. 6d. per dozen lbs. Oil : Olive, bulk, 6s. per gall. ; in drum, 7s. per gall.; colza, 6s. per gall. ; castor, 6s. 6d. per gall. ; kerosene, Devoe's, 2s. 6d. per gall.; Downing's, 2s. 10d. per gall. Tallow, mutton, 34s. 6d. per cwt. Quicksilver, 8s. per lb. Picks : Single-ended, 48s. per dozen ; double, 78s. per dozen. Shovels, long-handled, Day's, 65s., Ames', 84s. 6d. per dozen ; D-handled shovels, Day's, 64s., Ames', 84s. per dozen. Pick-handles : Hickory, 16s. per dozen ; colonial, 9s. 6d. per dozen. Hammer-handles : Hickory, 16s. per dozen ; colonial, 9s. per dozen. Shovels : socket-handled, Cornish, 58s. per dozen. Flax packing, 1s. 3d. to 2s. 6d. per lb. Hemp packing, 10d. per lb. Bar iron, 26s. per cwt. Shafting iron, 32s. per cwt. Sheet iron, 27s. per cwt. Fuze : Bickford's single tape, 10s. per dozen coils ; double tape, 13s. per dozen coils. Steel : Cast, Johnson's, 70s. per cwt.; octagon, S.S.S., 56s. per cwt.; Johnson's, 67s. per cwt.; blister steel, 50s. per cwt. ; shear steel, 60s. per cwt. ; spring steel, 50s. per cwt. Leather : English, 2s. 9d. per lb. ; colonial, 2s. per lb. Guttapercha, sheet, 3s. 9d. per lb. Indiarubber : sheet, 3s. 3d. per lb. ; insertion, 3s. 9d. per lb. Indiarubber tubing, ½ in., 1s. 1d. per foot ; ¾ in., 1s. 3d. per foot ; 1 in., 1s. 6d. per foot ; 1½ in., 1s. 6d., 2 in., 2s., per foot.

BENDOC.—Oil : Castor, about 7s. 6d. per gall. ; kerosene, 3s. 6d. per gall. Candles, sperm, 14s. per dozen lbs. Stamp-heads, shoes, and bottoms, 30s. to 40s. per cwt. Shovels (Collins') : Short-handled, 70s. per dozen ; long-handled, 96s. per dozen. Picks (Collins') : Hammer-headed, 70s. per. dozen ; double-ended, 78s. per dozen. Pick-handles, 12s. to 16s. per dozen. Iron, 30s. to 40s, per cwt. Steel, 60s. per cwt. Powder, blasting, 1s. per lb. Rope, manilla, 5 inch, 78s. per cwt. ; ditto, 2½ inch, 78s. per cwt.

No. 54.

TABLE showing approximately the QUANTITY and COST of TIMBER consumed for Mining Purposes in the several MINING DISTRICTS during the Year 1874, from Returns made by the Mining Surveyors and Registrars.

			£	s.	d.
BALLARAT	Firewood, &c. ... ... 282,921 tons ...				
	Props and Cap-pieces ... ... 1,461,104 pieces ...	141,415	2	0	
	Laths and Slabs ... ... 1,931,778 pieces ...				
	Sawn Timber ... ... 2,327,920 feet				
BEECHWORTH	Firewood, &c. ... ... 46,986 tons ...				
	Props and Cap-pieces ... ... 84,250 pieces ...	25,372	14	0	
	Laths and Slabs ... ... 359,600 pieces ...				
	Sawn Timber ... ... 360,050 feet				
SANDHURST	Firewood, &c. ... ... 235,815 tons ...				
	Props and Cap-pieces ... ... 116,450 pieces ...	110,600	5	0	
	Laths and Slabs .. .. 219,500 pieces ...				
	Sawn Timber ... ... 668,441 feet ...				
MARYBOROUGH ...	Firewood, &c. ... ... 92,076 tons ...				
	Props and Cap-pieces ... ... 339,820 pieces ...	38,921	9	0	
	Laths and Slabs ... ... 289,850 pieces ...				
	Sawn Timber ... ... 281,450 feet ...				
CASTLEMAINE	Firewood, &c. ... ... 106,307 tons ...				
	Props and Cap-pieces ... ... 149,314 pieces ...	35,468	12	0	
	Laths and Slabs ... ... 148,740 pieces ...				
	Sawn Timber ... ... 238,544 feet ...				
ARARAT	Firewood, &c. ... ... 211,148 tons ...				
	Props and Cap-pieces ... ... 75,157 pieces ...	78,112	17	0	
	Laths and Slabs ... ... 154,383 pieces ...				
	Sawn Timber ... ... 544,100 feet				
GIPPSLAND	Firewood, &c. ... ... 20,744 tons ...				
	Props and Cap-pieces ... ... 15,553 pieces ...	11,840	8	0	
	Laths and Slabs ... ... 18,365 pieces ...				
	Sawn Timber ... ... 137,104 feet ...				
	Total Cost	£441,731	7	0	

No. 55.

THE FOLLOWING PARTICULARS, *which have been collected by the Mining Surveyors and Registrars, relate to the weight and cost of the Stamp-heads and Shanks or Lifters made use of in some of the principal Gold Mines in the several Mining Districts, and supply additional information connected with the process of crushing Quartz during the Year* 1874.

In the BALLARAT MINING DISTRICT the stamp-heads and shanks or lifters vary in weight from 5 cwt. to 8 cwt., and the cost is from 14s. 6d. to £10 per cwt. The height the stamp-head falls ranges from 6 to 12 inches. The number of strokes made per minute is from 60 to 82. The quantity of quartz crushed per head per diem of 24 hours varies from 18 cwt. to 3 tons 10 cwt. The number of holes per square inch in the gratings used is from 64 to 196. The horse-power required to work each stamper is from 1 to 2. The quantity of water used per stamp-head in crushing varies from 250 gallons to 600 gallons per hour. The quantity of mercury used in the ripples per stamper is from 6 to 80 lbs. The quantity of mercury lost per stamp-head per week is from 0·30 oz. to 5 ozs.

In the BEECHWORTH MINING DISTRICT the stamp-heads and shanks or lifters vary in weight from 4 cwt. to 9 cwt., and the cost is from £1 5s. to £28 per cwt. The height the stamp-head falls ranges from 7 to 12 inches. The number of strokes made per minute is from 56 to 75. The quantity of quartz crushed per head per diem of 24 hours varies from 1 ton to 2 tons 5 cwt. The number of holes per square inch in the gratings used is from 90 to 160. The horse-power required to work each stamper is from 1 to 1·50. The quantity of water used per stamp-head in crushing varies from 150 gallons to 400 gallons per hour. The quantity of mercury used in the ripples per stamper is from 6 to 68 lbs. The quantity of mercury lost per stamp-head per week is from 0·75 oz. to 10 ozs.

In the SANDHURST MINING DISTRICT the stamp-heads and shanks or lifters vary in weight from 6 cwt. to 7 cwt., and the cost is from £1 10s. to £18 per cwt. The height the stamp-head falls ranges from 7½ to 12 inches. The number of strokes made per minute is from 64 to 75. The quantity of quartz crushed per head per diem of 24 hours varies from 1 ton 10 cwt. to 2 tons 10 cwt. The number of holes per square inch in the gratings used is from 64 to 180. The horse-power required to work each stamper is from 1 to 2. The quantity of water used per stamp-head in crushing varies from 200 to 255 gallons per hour. The quantity of mercury used in the ripples per stamper is from 15 to 36 lbs. The quantity of mercury lost per stamp-head per week is 1 oz.

In the MARYBOROUGH MINING DISTRICT the stamp-heads and shanks or lifters vary in weight from 5 cwt. 2 qrs. to 8 cwt., and the cost is from £1 to £1 11s. 6d. per cwt. The height the stamp-head falls ranges from 6 to 12 inches. The number of strokes made per minute is from 36 to 85. The quantity of quartz crushed per head per diem of 24 hours varies from 1 ton to 3 tons. The number of holes per square inch in the gratings used is from 70 to 180. The horse-power required to work each stamper is from 0·75 to 1·50. The quantity of water used per stamp-head in crushing varies from 126 to 400 gallons per hour. The quantity of mercury used in the ripples per stamper is from 10 to 35 lbs. The quantity of mercury lost per stamp-head per week varies from 1·50 to 12 ozs.

In the CASTLEMAINE MINING DISTRICT the stamp-heads and shanks or lifters vary in weight from 4 cwt. 2 qrs. to 8 cwt. 1 qr., and the cost is from 17s. to £25 per cwt. The height the stamp-head falls ranges from 6 to 15 inches. The number of strokes made per minute is from 50 to 90. The quantity of quartz crushed per head per diem of 24 hours varies from 1 ton 2 cwt. to 3 tons 10 cwt. The number of holes per square inch in the gratings used is from 75 to 200. The horse-power required to work each stamper is from 0·75 to 2·50. The quantity of water used per stamp-head in crushing varies from 135 to 430 gallons per hour. The quantity of mercury used in the ripples per stamp-head is from 5 to 75 lbs. The quantity of mercury lost per stamp-head per week varies from 0·50 to 14 ozs.

In the ARARAT MINING DISTRICT the stamp-heads and shanks or lifters vary in weight from 6 cwt. to 7 cwt. 3 qrs. 14 lbs., and the cost is from 17s. 6d. to £8 per cwt. The height the stamp-head falls ranges from 6 to 12 inches. The number of strokes made per minute is from 30 to 70. The quantity of quartz crushed per head per diem of 24 hours varies from 1 ton to 2 tons. The number of holes per square inch in the gratings used is from 80 to 256. The horse-power required to work each stamper is from 0·9 to 1·30. The quantity of water used per stamp-head in crushing varies from 160 to 650 gallons per hour. The quantity of mercury used in the ripples per stamper is from 15 to 70 lbs. The quantity of mercury lost per stamp-head per week is from 1 to 9 ozs.

In the GIPPSLAND MINING DISTRICT the stamp-heads and shanks or lifters vary in weight from 3 cwt. to 8 cwt., and the cost is from £1 12s. to £30 per cwt. The height the stamp-head falls ranges from 6 to 10 inches. The number of strokes made per minute is from 40 to 84. The quantity of quartz crushed per head per diem of 24 hours varies from 1 ton to 3 tons. The number of holes per square inch in the gratings is from 80 to 144. The horse-power required to work each stamper is from 0·80 to 1·50. The quantity of water used per stamp-head in crushing varies from 40 to 480 gallons per hour. The quantity of mercury used in the ripples per stamper is from 9 to 45 lbs. The quantity of mercury lost per stamp-head per week varies from 1 to 8 ozs.

MINERALS OTHER THAN GOLD.

No. 56.

RETURN of the NUMBER of LEASES in force on the 31st December 1874 for the purpose of Mining for METALS AND MINERALS OTHER THAN GOLD.

Names of Metals and Minerals.	Number of Leases.	Area. A.	R.	P.
Antimony	21	522	2	27
Coal	18	9,412	0	19
Copper	1	625	0	12
Flagging	1	9	2	3
Kaolin	1	5	2	28
Lignite	1	475	2	10
Silver	3	380	1	17
Silver and Lead	2	605	0	32
Silver, Lead, and Copper	2	858	3	36
Slate	3	362	0	13
Slate and Flagging	3	42	0	32
Slate and Freestone	3	333	0	37
Iron	1	42	2	22
Ironstone	1	320	1	35
Red Ochre Clay	2	17	0	26
Tin, and the Ores of Tin	12	961	2	0
Infusorial Earth	1	52	2	20
Totals	76	15,027	0	9

No. 57.

RETURN showing the NUMBER of LICENSES to SEARCH for METALS OR MINERALS OTHER THAN GOLD issued during the Year 1874.

Names of Metals and Minerals.	Number of Licenses.	Extent of Ground held under such Licenses. Acres.
Coal	21	11,363
Antimony	2	100
Slate	1	5
Tin	14	1,824
Bismuth	1	320
Flagging	1	60
Lignite	2	1,280
Silver, Lead, and Copper	2	520
Gypsum	2	560
Ores of Iron	2	520
Opal	1	50
Totals	49	16,602

NOTE.—Fees are charged for Searching Licenses in accordance with the following scale:—

	£	s.	d.
For an area exceeding 320 acres, but not exceeding 640 acres, per annum	10	0	0
„ 160 „ „ 320 „ „	5	0	0
„ 80 „ „ 160 „ „	2	10	0
„ 64 „ „ 80 „ „	1	5	0
And for any area not exceeding 64 acres	1	0	0

(*Vide* Notice published in the *Government Gazette* of 2nd December 1864.)

No. 58.

RETURN of the NUMBER of MINERAL LEASES issued in the Year 1874, and the EXTENT of GROUND LEASED.

Names of Metals and Minerals.	Number of Leases.	Area. A.	R.	P.
Antimony	2	75	0	19
Coal	2	1,280	0	0
Silver	1	202	2	31
Silver, Lead, and Copper	2	858	3	36
Infusorial Earth	1	52	2	20
Ironstone	1	320	1	35
Red Ochre Clay	1	15	0	12
Tin, and the Ores of Tin	8	233	3	21
Totals	18	3,038	3	14

METALLIFEROUS MINERALS, COALS, LIGNITE, CLAYS, SLATES, AND MISCELLANEOUS MINERALS.

METALLIFEROUS MINERALS.

SILVER.

According to the returns made to the Department, the following quantities have been raised :—

—	Silver Ores.	Silver.
	tons	ozs. dwts.
Previously—up to 31st December 1873	12,288	24,719 8
From 1st January to 31st December 1874 ...	180	760 0
Extracted at the Mint	...	11,146 5
Totals	12,468	36,625 13

The following statement of Exports has been supplied by the Customs Department :—

Year.	Silver Ores.	Silver.
	tons cwt.	ozs. dwts.
1861	10 6	...
1864	...	4,207 15
1865	...	4,954 0
1867	...	366 2
1868	...	5,604 9
1871	...	236 0
1873	...	Nil
1874	...	Nil
Totals	10 6	15,368 6

Silver mining operations in the St. Arnaud district during the year 1874 are thus reported on by Mr. James Rowan, the Warden's Clerk at St. Arnaud :—

" The yields of silver from the undermentioned mines may be tabulated as follows :—

—	Quartz Raised.	Silver.	Value.	Value of Gold.
	tons.	ozs.	£ s. d.	£
Wilson's Hill	2,073	276	69 0 0	5,604
Rising Star	1,454	36	9 0 0	2,362
Chrysolite Hill	2,193	68	19 0 0	3,966

NOTE.—The ore was not treated alone for the extraction of silver.

" The London and St. Arnaud Gold and Silver Mines Company Limited have raised 180 tons during the year 1874. The quantity reduced was 180 tons, and the mixed metal extracted therefrom represents the estimated value of £152. The company have been engaged principally in prospecting at Stewart's Hill, at the two and three hundred feet level. No stone has been raised since the beginning of February, but eighteen men have been constantly employed in driving levels and crosscuts."

Chrysolite Hill Company have completed the sinking of their shaft, which has reached the depth of 500 feet. The mine is at present the deepest in St. Arnaud.

The following remarks are taken from the annual returns of lessees' operations on lands occupied for silver mining purposes ; one return states :—" Prospecting for silver ore, sinking and driving, but up to the present time little worth crushing or treating has been met with." Another return says :—" During the year 1874 a new shaft has been completed to a depth of 400 feet, and a golden reef cut at that depth. Machinery (20-head battery and engine) is now being erected to work the same."

The Mining Surveyor at St. Arnaud reported, respecting silver mining, for the quarter ended 31st June 1874, as follows :—" At the silver mines the removal of the machinery has been completed on to their new shaft (Sec. H. Walker's), and mining operations have been commenced on the reef at the 300-foot level." For the quarter ending 31st September 1874 he reports:—" At the silver mines they have been engaged during the quarter in driving cross-cuts and levels, at a depth of 300 feet from their new shaft, Stewart's Hill." For the quarter ending 31st December 1874 he states—" The Silver Mines Company were engaged during the quarter in driving levels and crosscuts, at a depth of 300 feet from the new shaft."

The lessees of a mine in Gippsland report that during the year 56 tons of lead and silver ore have been raised.

The manager of another mine in Gippsland reports that during the year 55 tons of lead and silver ore have been raised.

The lessee of a lease near Maryborough reports that a shaft has been sunk 400 feet, and machinery for pumping and crushing erected, at a cost of £8,000. The lode has not yet contained any silver, but large quantities of arsenical and iron pyrites, to concentrate which a buddle is now in course of erection. The assay of the gold found is £3 18s. 6d. per oz.

During the year 1874 the quantity of silver extracted from gold at the Royal Mint amounted to 11,146·17 ozs. which, at the current rate of 5s. per ounce, gives £2,786 11s. The quantity of silver sold by the Mint during the same year was as follows :—

	oz.
1st quarter ending March	3,156·03
2nd quarter ending June	928·59
3rd quarter ending September	2,885·26
4th quarter ending December	3,590·40
Total	10,560·28

Thus leaving in the Mint 585·95 oz. not disposed of.

There were three leases in force at the end of the year for the purpose of mining for silver on an area of 380 acres 1 rood 17 perches ; two leases for mining for silver and lead over an area of 605 acres 32 perches; two leases in force for silver, lead, and copper for an area of 858 acres 3 roods and 36 perches.

Two licenses to search for silver, lead, and copper were issued for an area of 520 acres.

One lease was issued during the year for an area of 202 acres 2 roods 31 perches to mine for silver, and two leases to mine for silver, lead, and copper over an area of 858 acres 3 roods 36 perches.

TIN.

The following statement of Exports has been received from the Customs Department :—

Tin Ore.	tons	cwt.	Tin.	lbs.
Previously—up to 31st December 1873 ...	4,006	12	Previously—up to 31st December 1873 ...	248,960
From 1st January to 31st December 1874	112	14	From 1st January to 31st December 1874 ...	86,016
Total	4,119	6	Total	334,976

The following information, relative to the quantity of tin ore raised in the Beechworth district, has been supplied by Mr. Robert Pitcairn, Warden, &c., at Beechworth :—

"Tin (black sand) raised :—

	tons	cwt.
Eldorado, Woolshed, Sheepstation, Black Sand, and Pilot Creeks, &c. ...	204	12
Koetong	85	10
Total	290	2

"Tin smelted, 152 tons 6 cwt.; percentage, Eldorado, 73 per cent.; Ovens, 30 to 70 per cent.; Koetong, 65 to 72 per cent.

"Smelted tin shipped to England, 49 tons 2 cwt. Price £85 to £112; present price £87.

"Smelted tin sold in colony, 103 tons 4 cwt.

"Black sand shipped to England, 81 tons 12 cwt. Prices: Beechworth, £39 to £40; Koetong, £40 to £46."

The Warden at Eldorado states that the aggregate quantity of tin ore raised within this division is about ten tons per month.

The Mining Registrar for the Dry Creek subdivision of the Beechworth district, in his report for the quarter ended 31st December 1874, states :—"I may, however, mention that a company styled the North-Eastern Gold and Tin Mining Company has started under very favorable auspices. Operations have been going on for the last month, and are being energetically pushed forward. It will probably be five months before the workings are properly opened out, as there is a great deal of dead work to be executed before anything definite can be known, although excellent samples of tin ore have been found in the company's ground ahead."

The Mining Surveyor at Yackandandah reports, "that in the Mitta Mitta division tin ore is being worked for. Three claims situated at the head of the Cudgewa Creek, giving employment to thirteen men, are being worked. Up to the beginning of December last, the "Koetong Tin Mining Company gave employment to from ten to fifteen men, but this company has suspended operations for the present."

A lessee at Grassy Creek (a branch of the Cudgewa) reports having raised about 8 tons 10 cwt. 21 lbs. of tin ore during the year, and states that he had to suspend work for want of water. At Cudgewa a lessee reports having raised 9 tons 4 cwt. 27 lbs. during the year. Another lessee at the same place states that he raised 22 tons 14 cwt.; a third reports that the quantity raised by him during the quarter ending 31st March 1874 was 1 ton 18 cwt.; and a fourth states that he raised 2 tons during the year. The Mining Registrar for the Russell's Creek division reports for the quarter ending 31st March 1874 as follows:—"A large extent of country has been prospected for tin, and in nearly every instance good payable prospects have been found, averaging from 10 dwts. to 2 ozs. to the dish of washdirt. Several leases have already been pegged out and applied for. The locality is about four miles north-east from the old Gippsland Fern-tree Gully road, embracing several branches of the Tarwin River. It is estimated by the prospectors that sufficient fine gold will be obtained to pay all working expenses."

Mr. Cosmo Newbery reports:—"Coarse-grained clean tin sand, found about six miles south of Mount Fatigue, gave, when assayed, 74 per cent. of tin. Fine-grained tin sand, from the same locality, gave 53 per cent. of tin. A sample of stream tin ore, from the Franklin River, about four miles from Muddy Creek, gave, upon assay, 60 per cent. of pure tin. A sample of tin sand, from the same locality, gave 42·1 per cent. of tin. Black sand, from Stockyard Creek, was found to consist of titaniferous iron, with minute perfect crystals of topaz and quartz. A sample from the Upper Murray was a thin vein composed of cassiterite, with quartz, mica (white), and a little pyrites: it gave 45 per cent. of tin. Another sample from the same place was a moderately hard granite, composed of orthoclase, quartz, and white mica. The tin ore was distributed evenly through the mass of rock. It yielded 13 per cent. of tin. A sample of black sand, submitted by Mr. John Woods, M.P., was found to consist of stream tin and iron sands, and gave 38·1 per cent. of tin; while another sample of tin sand, submitted by the same gentleman, gave 63 per cent. of metallic tin."

The prejudice that at first existed against Victorian block tin is fast wearing away, for although a diversity of opinion still exists as to the respective qualities of Victorian and imported tin, the testimony of those trades that are accustomed to work in this metal preponderates in favor of the former. The great increase in the use of the Victorian article, by tinsmiths and others, and especially in the preparation of solder, is the most practical testimony in its favor. The smelting of Victorian tin ore is confined to the Ovens district, the principal smelters being the "Wellington Company," El Dorado; W. G. Hensley, Reed's Creek; Ah Moy, Reed's Creek; and Tien Sing. The wholesale dealers and the trade consumers are all loud in their praises o the block tin prepared by the Chinese smelters. Over 100 tons of Victorian block tin were sold by the wholesale dealers off Melbourne during the year 1874, at prices ranging from 9½d. to 1s. per lb. The largest amount sold by any one firm was 25 tons; the other quantities sold were 20, 18, and 15 tons; the minimum quantity sold being 4 tons. The majority of the tin trade, and particularly those who use the tin for making solder, openly state their preference for the Victorian tin. An idea of the consumption of Victorian block tin in Melbourne alone may be gathered from the statements made by some of the principal tin workers in the city.

One firm states that during the year 1874 they used 22 tons, which, at the average price paid per lb., represents an outlay of £2,420.

A firm disposed of and used during the year 12 tons. This firm states that, in the manufacture of solder, the very best English tin is required to take an equal quantity of lead, say 100 lbs. of lead to 100 lbs. of tin. Numerous trials with Victorian, Queensland, and English tin, give as results that 100 lbs. of Queensland tin will take 112 lbs. of lead; that 100 lbs. of Victorian tin will take from 104 to 105 lbs. of lead; while, as before stated, the very best English tin will only mix well when used in equal quantities with the lead.

Another firm that consumed about 20 tons, at from 9d. to 1s., during the year, states that, while the Victorian tin is better than the English, it is not refined so well. It therefore pays to send home Victorian ingots to be refined; and it is not improbable that the Victorian tin, after undergoing the refining process in England, is then exported under the name of "Lambing Flat," and other favorite brands.

A firm that used about 3 tons during the year for manufacturing solder prefers the English tin, stating that the Victorian tin when melted is too lumpy to amalgamate well with the lead.

A manufacturing tinsmith used about 30 cwt. of Victorian tin in 1874, which, at the price paid by him per lb., represented an outlay of £154.

Another tinsmith used 28 cwt., which, at an average price of 10d. per lb., would represent an expenditure of about £130.

There were twelve leases in force at the end of the year for the purpose of mining for tin, on an area of 961 acres 2 roods.

Eight leases were issued during the year for an area of 233 acres 3 roods 21 perches to mine for tin.

Fourteen licenses to search for tin over an area of 1,824 acres were issued.

COPPER.

According to the returns received, the following quantities of copper ore have been raised :—

	tons.
Perviously—up to 31st December 1873	1,255
From 1st January to 31st December 1874	Nil
Total	1,255

The following statement of Exports has been received from the Customs Department :—

	Copper.		Copper Ore.	
	tons	cwt.	tons	cwt.
Previously—up to 31st December 1873	49	12	36	1
From 1st January to 31st December 1874	10	2	Nil	
Totals	59	14	36	1

The lessees of a lease situated at Walhalla state that they are driving a tunnel with a view to intersect the lode at a greater depth than it has hitherto been tested. Should the lode be found to endure in depth, more extensive smelting furnaces and a reducing plant will be erected. No ore has been raised from the mine during the year 1874.

The Mining Registrar for the Stringer's Creek division reports for the quarter ending 31st June 1874 as follows :—"The principal event in mining which has taken place this quarter is the successful floating of the Thomson River Copper Mine. It is now named the Walhalla Copper Mining Company Limited, and has been put into 30,000 shares of £1 each, the whole of which, with the exception of 1,000 held by the company, have been taken up. The company is a very good one, so there is every probability of the lode being properly tested; and according to the opinions of several gentlemen well acquainted with copper there is very little doubt that this mine, with proper management, will be highly remunerative." For the quarter ending 31st December 1874 he reports :—"The Walhalla Copper Mining Company are driving a tunnel to intersect the lode at a depth of 100 feet below the first level from the surface, and expect to do so about the end of next quarter."

Nothing was done during the year 1874. The lessees of the only lease for copper mining state they have not raised any ore. No copper ore from any of the other colonies comes to Melbourne, unless for transhipment to Europe, and consequently no smelting of this metal has taken place. South Australian copper in ingots and plates brings, delivered in Melbourne, £88 10s. per ton; and is quoted in London at from £90 to £91.

Mr. Cosmo Newbery reports that he has received for analysis the following samples :—"Metallic copper, associated with oxide of copper, stated to have been found within three miles of Melbourne. Upon smelting it will give about 90 per cent. of copper. The sample has the general character and appearance of surface samples from many of the Queensland copper lodes. Quartz from Granite Flat, Snowy Creek, containing small traces of copper, as sulphide and carbonate. Sample from the ranges between Koetong and Bright consisted of carbonates of copper and lead. On a preliminary test being made, it gave about 50 per cent. of the combined metals, copper and lead, and an amount of silver equal to about 40 ounces per ton of ore. A sample, stated to be a duplicate of the former one, was also received, but it was not so rich in metallic minerals. Three assays were made, the result being copper 25·36 per cent., lead 9·10 per cent., silver 6 dwts. 12 grs. per ton of ore. The copper and lead were both present as carbonated. Copper ore, in a quartz gangue, from Granite Flat, Snowy Creek, was found to contain copper as sulphide, and also green carbonate of copper. Upon assay it gave 5·80 per cent. of copper. A sample of copper and iron pyrites, from Charlton, near Beaufort, gave, upon assay, 21·30 per cent. of copper."

One lease was in force at the end of the year to mine for copper over an area of 625 acres 0 roods 12 perches; two leases were in force to mine for copper, silver, and lead, over an area of 858 acres 3 roods 36 perches.

Two leases were issued during the year to mine for copper, silver, and lead, over an area of 858 acres 3 roods 36 perches; and two licenses to search for copper, silver, and lead, over an area of 520 acres, were issued.

ANTIMONY.

According to returns received, the following quantities have been raised :—

Antimony Ore.	tons	cwt.	qrs.	lbs.
Previously—up to 31st December 1873	10,609	17	0	0
From 1st January to 31st December 1874	588	7	3	9
Total	11,198	4	3	9

The following statement of Exports has been received from the Customs Department :—

—	Antimony Ore.		Antimony Regulus.		Antimony.	
	tons	cwt.	tons	cwt.	tons	cwt.
Previously—up to 31st December 1873 ...	7,837	2	271	5	430	1
From 1st January to 31st December 1874 ...	224	7	231	0	Nil	
Totals	8,061	9	502	5	430	1

The following remarks are taken from the annual returns of lessees' operations on lands occupied for antimony mining purposes. One lessee, who has raised 75 tons of ore, reports—"Were engaged for upwards of four months in sinking a main shaft, 10 feet x 3 feet 6 inches; it is now slabbed and centred to a depth of 187 feet; had to go in about 123 feet before striking reef, which now looks very promising." Another states :—"Erecting 30 horse-power engine and 10-inch lift. Sinking shaft 75 feet from 1st June to 14th November; present depth, 200 feet." The amount of ore raised was over 59 tons. A third lessee, who has raised about 19 tons, states :—"Have not smelted any of this ore—very poor, indeed." A fourth lessee reports having raised 435 tons of ore, having smelted 123 tons, and having obtained 43 tons of regulus.

Mr. Alfred Armstrong, the Mining Surveyor and Registrar for the St. Andrew's division of the Castlemaine district, in his report for the quarter ending 31st March 1874, states :—"The antimony mine at Ringwood has yielded during the quarter 19 tons of sulphide of antimony and 30 tons of oxide, both of excellent quality. The encouraging appearance of this mine will lead to more extensive operations."

During the year about 153 tons 10 cwt. of antimony were raised in Victoria, the value of the ore ranging from £7 to £12 per ton. Ore containing 60 per cent. of antimony brought, in London, from £12 to £12 15s. per ton, while the regulus has maintained a price as high as £49 per ton. With one exception there is but little smelting carried on in Melbourne. One firm in Melbourne, during 1874, smelted 17 tons 6 cwt. 1 qr. 13 lbs., consisting of mixed lots, the price averaging about £7 10s. per ton. The yield was 6 tons 10 cwt. 3 qrs. 6 lbs.

Another firm treated about 38 tons of ore, valued at from £7 10s. to £8 per ton, and obtained a yield of 22 tons, the market value of which was £42 per ton; while a third had 58 tons of ore treated, the value of which varied from £8 to £11 per ton, and obtained a return of 20 tons of regulus.

With respect to the following samples of antimony ores received, Mr. Cosmo Newbery reports:—"Sulphide of antimony from Ringwood yielded 55 per cent. of antimony, and another sample 33 per cent.; sulphide of antimony from Costerfield gave 45 per cent., and a sample from Whroo 65 per cent.; sulphide of antimony from Sandhurst gave 63 per cent. of antimony; oxide of antimony from Costerfield gave 36 per cent. of antimony. A sample of sulphide of antimony associated with oxide, discovered 35 feet beneath the surface, at Ringwood, gave, when assayed, 68·46 per cent. of antimony. Sulphide of antimony with oxide of antimony and quartz, submitted by Mr. Bruhn, of Sandhurst, gave an average percentage of 31 per cent. of antimony, and an amount of gold equal to 2 ozs. 8 dwts. 23 grs. per ton."

There were twenty-one leases in force at the end of the year to mine for antimony over an aggregate area of 522 acres 2 roods 27 perches.

Two leases were issued during the year to mine for antimony over an area of 75 acres 0 roods 19 perches.

Two licenses to search for antimony, over an area of 100 acres, were issued during the year.

LEAD.

According to returns received, it appears that the following quantities of lead ore have been raised:—

	tons.
Previously—up to 31st December 1873	407
From 1st January to 31st December 1874	111
Total	518

The following statement of Exports has been received from the Customs Department:—

	Lead Ore.		Lead.	
	tons	cwt.	tons	cwt.
Previously—up to 31st December 1873	66	18	0	1
From 1st January to 31st December 1874	Nil		Nil	
Total	66	18	0	1

The lessees of a mine in North Gippsland report that they have raised 55 tons of lead and silver; that 20 tons have been smelted, and that 4 tons 15 cwt. 2 qrs. of regulus were obtained.

The manager of another mine in Gippsland states the quantity of galena raised during the year to be 56 tons. The company smelted 3 tons 10 cwt., obtaining therefrom 17 cwt. 0 qrs. 3 lbs of regulus. In another mine operations have been confined to prospecting, with a view of getting on the lode.

Mr. John Grimes Peers, Mining Surveyor and Registrar for the Mitchell River subdivision of the Gippsland mining district, makes the following remarks respecting the galena mines at Buchan in his report for the quarter ending 31st March 1874, the information having been supplied to him by the mining manager of one of the principal companies:—

"Murrindal Silver and Lead Mining Company.—The furnaces lately erected for smelting have not been found to answer, which is to be attributed to improper construction and the want of skilled smelters. Two experienced smelters, however, have been sent for from England, and are expected to arrive per next mail, and until their arrival four men only will be at work.

"Spring Creek Lease.—Work has not yet been commenced.

"Neal's Creek Lease.—No work has been done here for a time.

"The Buchan Lead and Silver Mining Company.—During the past quarter little work has been done in this mine. The rise in the main level has been driven about 8 feet, with greatly improved results, but, owing to the want of ventilation, work has had to be suspended here. The greatest improvement is noticeable in the ore, it being for the last two feet better than any seen for the previous 40 feet, and giving undoubted proof that the lode will increase in quality and quantity as it deepens.

"The Potosi Company.—This company is not working."

For the quarter ending 30th June 1874 Mr. Peers reports:—

"Buchan Lead and Silver Mining Company.—There have been but two men employed on this company's mine during the quarter. I am informed by the manager that the ore is improving.

"Murrindal Company.—Four men are engaged on this company's mine, preparing ore for the furnaces.

"No men are employed on any of the other mines in this locality."

Early in the year a trial smelting of 2 tons of Murrindal lead was made in Melbourne; a return of 60 per cent. of lead was obtained, the metal being valued at £22 10s. per ton. The cost of treatment, together with the cost of transport from the mine to Bairnsdale, and the carriage thence to Melbourne, left no margin for profits. One item of expense is caused by the difficulty that exists in separating the lead from the sulphur and antimony, which form component parts of the ore. The company at Murrindal have erected a Spanish reverberatory furnace, and also a Flintshire furnace, and have sent to England for a manager well versed in the treatment of lead ore. As there are apparently large quantities of lead ore in the claim, the company hope, as soon as they are in a position to begin smelting, to place on the market an article that will find favor with the manufacturers. The price of Australian lead, as judged by that placed upon the market by the Champion Bay Company, Western Australia, rules high. The ore is quoted at from £15 to £16 per ton, and the pig, before it is manipulated, is valued at £23.

There were two leases in force at the end of the year to mine for lead and silver over an area of 605 acres 0 roods 32 perches, and two leases to mine for lead, silver, and copper over an area of 858 acres 3 roods 36 perches. The last mentioned two leases were issued during the year.

Two licenses to search for lead, silver, and copper were issued for an area of 520 acres.

BISMUTH.

A sample of nearly pure metallic bismuth, from Snowy Creek, was received. Mr. Cosmo Newbery reports that the outer portions of the sample contain carbonate and oxide of bismuth with ferrugineous clay. It contained no gold or silver.

One license was issued to search for bismuth on an area of 320 acres.

IRON.

According to returns received, it appears that the following quantities of iron ore have been raised:—

	tons.	cwt.
Previously—up to 31st December 1873	52	0
From 1st January to 31st December 1874	130	10
Total	182	10

The following statement of Exports has been received from the Customs Department:—

	Iron Ore.	
	tons	cwt.
Previously—up to 31st December 1873	10	8
From 1st January to 31st December 1874	Nil	
Total	10	8

Mr. William H. Gaunt, warden, &c., for the Ballarat district, states that the Lal-lal Iron Company Limited have just completed the erection of a smelting furnace for iron ore, and are about to erect suitable machinery for driving the blasts; men are engaged in burning charcoal for supply of fuel, and mining work has been carried on, proving that the ore-beds extend over a considerable area.

The lessees of an iron mine report that some hundred tons of iron ore have been raised in making excavations to prove the lode. A furnace has been erected, and the company are engaged in fixing machinery. Beds are being made for the iron, and buildings are being put up.

The only experiments made during the year were with the iron ore found at Limestone Gully, between Newstead and Sandy Creek. The ore crops out of the ground, and presents much the same appearance as that observable in the Tasmanian iron country. About half a ton of ore, and the lime found in juxta-position to it, were smelted by Messrs. Drysdale and Fraser, of King street, Melbourne, and yielded 55 per cent. of iron. The smelters report that the lime is superior to that found at the Heads, and equal to the Geelong lime. The largest of two iron lodes is 150 feet wide, visible to the eye from the bed of the Loddon for a quarter of a mile. It is estimated by those who have visited the spot, that over 50,000 tons could be readily obtained for smelting. The iron is the iron of commerce, or grey iron, which, being soft and ductile, is generally used for castings, columns, bronze and wheelwright's work. It is said to be different from the hematite ore found at Ilfracombe, Tasmania; Para-para, New Zealand; and Lal-lal, near Ballarat; which is better suited for the manufacture of stamp-heads, the jaws of stone-breaking machines, &c., and for puddling into wrought iron, which, however, necessitates expensive machinery.

The lessee of a lease near Bendigo reports that 30 tons of red ochreous clay have been raised; also that no work has been done since 31st March 1874, as a quantity of the clay has been sent to England, in order to ascertain the value of the prepared red ochre of commerce, and the value of the raw material in the English market. Information respecting the nature and cost of the necessary and suitable machinery for manufacturing the clay on the ground held under lease, and the ruling prices in the English, Continental, and Indian markets, with statistics relative to home consumption, have been sought for. Answers to these enquiries are expected shortly.

With respect to the samples of iron ore submitted to him for analysis, Mr. Cosmo Newbery reports:—"A sample of impure brown iron ore from Daylesford was received, which gave 36·89 per cent. of metallic iron, and 37·70 per cent. of silica, the greater part of the silica being in the form of sand. The brown iron stone from Traralgon Creek consisted of peroxide of iron, silica, alumina, lime, and magnesia, coated over and permeated with phosphate of iron (earthy vivianite). A sample from the head of Lake Tyers, Gippsland, was found to consist of micaceous iron, hematite, and brown iron ore, with quartz and iron pyrites. An average portion gave metallic iron 26·32 per cent., silica 61·80 per cent. Mixed hematite and brown iron ore from Wilson's Promontory gave, upon assay, 60 per cent of iron. A sample of micaceous iron ore, associated with quartz, from the Grampians, was received. If found free from quartz, and in large quantities, it would be a valuable iron ore, containing 72 per cent. of that metal. Nearly pure chrome iron, in the form of sand, has been received from Stockyard Creek, and in a massive form from North Gippsland. From the neighborhood of Mansfield a sample of magnetic oxide with brown iron ore and clay was received, which, upon analysis, gave metallic iron 42·70 per cent., silica and clay 37·90 per cent. Samples of titaniferous iron sand have been received from all parts of the colony; they contained garnets, zircons, sapphires, topazes, and in a few cases cassiterite. Ferrugineous sandstone, from the coast near Frankston, was found to consist of hydrated oxide of iron 67·10 per cent., silica (sand) 32·90 per cent."

There was one lease in force at the end of the year to mine for iron over an area of 42 acres 2 roods 22 perches. One lease to mine for ironstone over an area of 320 acres 1 rood 35 perches. (This lease was issued during the year.) Two licenses were issued during the year to search for iron over an area of 520 acres.

There were two leases in force at the end of the year to mine for red ochre clay over an area of 17 acres 0 roods 26 perches.

One lease to mine for red ochre clay over an area of 15 acres 0 roods 12 perches has been issued during the year.

COAL AND LIGNITES.

COAL.

According to returns received, it appears that the following quantities have been raised:—

	tons	cwt.
Previously—up to 31st December 1873	2,547	8
From 1st January to 31st December 1874	2,909	0
Total	5,456	8

The lessees of the leases held by the Western Port Coal Mining Company Limited state in the returns of operations during the year that they have raised 2,879 tons of coal. Adit and stalls have been driven to the extent of 775 feet, and a third shaft has been sunk about 90 feet. The average thickness of the seam has been about 20 inches, but a fault has just been crossed, throwing the seam down about 50 feet. The coal is now about 31 inches thick, and much harder and heavier, and will be cut with very much less slack. Preparations are now being made, by increasing the capital, for laying down iron rails on the tramway, and providing a locomotive engine, as horse labor is too slow for the quantity of coal the mine is capable of placing on the market.

The lessees of a lease near Rosedale report that the principal operations carried on have been not so much raising coal as preparing for future work. Five seams of coal have been opened, varying from 9 inches to 4 feet in thickness. About 30 tons of coal have been raised.

The holder of a lease near Griffith's Point states that a shaft has been sunk 250 feet in depth during the two quarters ending March and June 1874. The coal has not yet been reached, but arrangements have been made for sinking further.

In the returns of operations during the year, the chairman of the directors of the Kilcunda Coal Association reports:—"During this period the Kilcunda Coal Association has sunk a shaft 80 feet by 4 feet 3 inches, on the ground, in order to explore for coal. The shaft is down 250 feet, and has penetrated through clay, blue sandstone, shale, and small riders of coal ½ inch to 3 inches only. Further capital is being raised by the association in order to sink deeper for payable seams."

Other lessees of leases state that they are boring down 320 feet; that several seams have been passed through; and that samples of coal and fire clay taken out of their ground are to be seen at the office of the secretary of the Melbourne and Hobson's Bay United Railway Company.

The Mining Registrar for the Russell's Creek division of the Gippsland mining district reports, for the quarter ending 31st March 1874, that several parties were prospecting for coal, and that very good indications had been found on the La Trobe River.

It was reported, about the commencement of December, that what was described as a valuable seam of coal had been discovered at Lang-lang, in South Gippsland, by Mr. Edmund O'Mahoney. The coal deposit is about seven miles from the proposed Gippsland railway line, and is sixty-five miles from Melbourne. The seam at Lang-lang is stated to be about two feet thick at a very short distance from the outcrop.

About the end of December it was stated that a landslip in the Wannon Valley exposed the lay of the strata. Some ten feet from the surface there cropped out what appeared to be a seam of coal four feet in thickness. The mineral was found to burn with a smouldering heat like peat.

With respect to the coal discoveries on the Gippsland road, Mr. Cosmo Newbery reports that their character is for the most part shaley. The two best samples gave—

	Water.	Volatile Matter.	Fixed Carbon.	Ash.
No. 1	1·60	20·30	66·58	11·52 = 100
No. 2	3·50	28·46	59·67	8·37 = 100

There were eighteen leases in force at the end of the year to mine for coal over an area of 9,412 acres 0 roods 19 perches.

Two leases to mine for coal over an area of 1,280 acres were issued during the year.

Twenty-one licenses to search for coal over an area of 11,363 acres were issued during the year.

LIGNITE.

According to returns received, it appears that the following quantities have been raised :—

	tons.
Previously—up to 31st December 1873	2,755
From 1st January to 31st December 1874	750
Total	3,500

Mr. Warden Gaunt reports that about 750 tons have been raised during the year 1874 by the Victorian Brown Coal Company Limited, the price charged at the pit's mouth being five shillings per ton. The average number of men employed is sixteen.

Mr. Cosmo Newbery reports that the lignites received from Mac's Creek, Moe, and the Upper Yarra closely resemble the lignite of Crossover Creek in their appearance, but the analyses show that they contain less volatile matter and more fixed carbon.

The lignite from the "Haunted Hill," Trig Station, La Trobe River, in texture and appearance closely resembles the Lal-lal lignite. In 100 parts it contains—

Water	18·90
Volatile matter	35·25
Fixed carbon	41·75
Ash	4·10
	100·00

There was one lease in force at the end of the year to raise lignite over an area of 475 acres 2 roods 10 perches, and two licenses were issued to search for lignite over an area of 1,280 acres.

CLAYS.

According to returns received, the following quantities of kaolin have been raised :—

	tons	cwt.
Previously—up to 31st December 1873	1,832	14
From 1st January to 31st December 1874	Nil	
Total	1,832	14

The following statement of Exports has been received from the Customs Department :—

	tons	cwt.
Previously—up to 31st December 1873	25	0
From 1st January to 31st December 1874	Nil	
Total	25	0

A sample of clay from Woragee, Beechworth, contains silica, sesquioxide of iron, alumina, lime, and magnesia. It fuses at a high temperature, and is suitable for ordinary brick and tile making purposes.

The yellow clay from the White Hills, Sandhurst, consists of hydrated silicate of alumina, colored by oxide of iron.

Of a sample of black shale from Ballarat Mr. Cosmo Newbery reports that it somewhat resembles plumbago in appearance. Upon being heated in an ordinary flame the carbon in the shale burns readily, leaving a voluminous white ash, which fuses at a high temperature. The softer parts of the shale might be used for the manufacture of crayons or perhaps soft pencils.

One lease to mine for kaolin over an area of 5 acres 2 roods 28 perches was in force at the end of the year.

FLAGS AND SLATES.

FLAGGING.

According to returns received, it appears that the following quantities have been raised :—

	tons	cwt.	qrs.	square yards.
Previously—up to 31st December 1873	7,617	0	0	80,160
From 1st January to 31st December 1874	1,961	2	0	Nil
Totals	9,578	2	0	80,160

SLATES.

The returns received show that there have been raised :—

	slates.	tons.
Previously—up to 31st December 1873	11,000	160
From 1st January to 31st December 1874	Nil	85
Totals	11,000	245

Mr. Warden Heron, of Castlemaine, reports that flags, subsequently dressed for billiard tables, monumental purposes, hearth stones, flagging, coreing, continue to be raised.

The annual return of one lessee's operations on lands near Castlemaine, during the year 1874, shows 1,519 tons of flagging and coreing have been raised.

The return of another lessee gives the amount of flagging and coreing raised as 442 tons. He states that all the flagging is sent away from the quarry unsquared. The value of flagging is about £2 10s. per ton in truck at Castlemaine station, coreing being about 14s. There are six men employed.

A holder of a lease of ground near Stawell occupied for the purpose of quarrying for slate states that, during the year 1874, 85 tons have been raised.

The lessees of various leases near Castlemaine report that the operations with respect to slates and freestone have been merely progressive.

A quarry of sandstone, situated on private property, near the White Horse road, Nunawading, has been opened up, and during the year some 20 tons of the stone have been used. It is a brown sandstone, dresses well, and takes a good face. It has been employed for stamping-tables at the General Post Office, and is worth from £2 to £2 10s. per ton.

There was one lease in force at the end of the year to raise flagging over an area of 9 acres 2 roods 3 perches; three leases in force to raise slate over an area of 362 acres 0 roods 13 perches; three leases in force to raise slate and flagging over an area of 42 acres 0 roods 32 perches; and three leases in force to raise slate and freestone over an area of 333 acres 0 roods 37 perches.

One license to search for slate over an area of 5 acres, and one license to search for flagging over an area of 60 acres, were issued during the year.

MISCELLANEOUS MINERALS.

MALDONITE.

Mr. Warden Heron reports:—"A mineral, to which the name of maldonite has been given, has been found distributed throughout the richly auriferous quartz lode of the Eaglehawk line of reef, about one mile south of the place (Nuggety Reef) where it was first observed, and there are indications of new combinations of this bismuth and gold series.

CALCITE AND DOLOMITE.

Mr. Warden Heron gives the following information, for much of which he acknowledges his indebtedness to Mr. John Hornsby, the chairman of the committee of the Maldon Mining Museum, and who takes a deep interest in the mineralogy of Victoria:—"The calcite and dolomite reported upon last year are found associated with vivianite, tremolite (crystalline, massive and glassy), pyrophyllite, apatite, and sheelite, the latter in considerable quantities."

Specimens of these minerals have been forwarded to the Maldon Athenæum and Mining Museum. There are three other minerals in the series, which have not been identified.

LIMESTONE.

During the year 1874 about 8 to 10 tons of limestone, found near the Moorabool River, have been used. It is valued at from 35s. to 40s. per ton, and is admirably suited for the manufacture of filters. Several hundred tons of the Waurn Ponds limestone were used for building purposes. It is found to resist climatic effects, and to harden when exposed to the air. Its price is from 35s. to 40s. per ton.

GYPSUM.

Gypsum and selenite occur in many parts of the colony.

Two licenses were issued to search for gypsum over an area of 560 acres.

INFUSORIAL EARTH.

The Warden's Clerk at Talbot reports that in the Amherst division of the Maryborough district attention has been turned to infusorial earth. The claimholder, although having completed the preliminary prospecting, has not yet commenced active operations.

With respect to the infusorial earth from Sailor's Creek Mr. Cosmo Newbery reports that it contained organic and earthy matter. An analysis gave—

Water	6·90 per cent.
Organic matter	14·80 ,,
Indissoluble silica	66·80 ,,
Soluble silica	3·30 ,,
Iron oxides, alumina, magnesia, and alkalies ...	undetermined.

There was one lease in force at the end of the year to raise infusorial earth over an area of 52 acres 2 roods 20 perches.

One lease to mine for infusorial earth over an area of 52 acres 2 roods 20 perches was issued during the year.

DIAMONDS.

The number reported to have been discovered is as follows:—

Previously—up to 31st December 1873	100
From 1st January to 31st December 1874	4
Total	104

Mr. Alex. Alderdice, Warden's Clerk at Beechworth, states that during the year four diamonds are reported to have been found in the vicinity of Beechworth, but that they were all of very small size and value.

SAPPHIRES, ZIRCONS, GARNETS, TOPAZ.

Mr. Warden Pitcairn reports that at Eldorado precious stones, such as sapphires, garnet, amethyst, topaz, agate, rock crystals, are found, and occasionally diamonds.

Mr. Alderdice states:—"Of sapphires, zircons, garnets, &c., none have been found of any value, although the miners at the Woolshed, Pilot Creek, Eldorado, &c., obtain many small ones in washing down."

The following list gives the number of Victorian gem stones cut by Messrs. Spink and Son, Melbourne, during the year:—

Sapphires, from Beechworth, Gippsland, &c.	12
Rubies, from Gippsland	12
Topazes, from Beechworth, Gippsland, &c.	100
Zircons	40
Malachite, from Gippsland	20
Garnets	6
Agates	30
Crystalized quartz	200

OPAL.

One license to search for opal was issued during the year for an area of 50 acres.

R. BROUGH SMYTH,
Secretary for Mines.

Office of Mines,
Melbourne, 15th February 1875.

APPENDICES.

APPENDIX A.

METALS (OTHER THAN GOLD), MINERALS, AND ORES IMPORTED INTO VICTORIA DURING THE YEAR 1874.

(From Returns furnished by the Honorable the Commissioner of Trade and Customs.)

Article.	Quantity.	Value.	Article.	Quantity.	Value.
		£ s.			£ s.
Antimony Ore ...	172 tons 4 cwt.	1,662 0	Metal, Yellow ...	178 tons 8 cwt.	16,241 0
„ Regulus ...	Nil	Nil	Quartz	19 „ 6 „	292 0
Arsenic	Nil	Nil	Quicksilver ...	365 bottles	7,923 0
Asphalt	50 tons 0 cwt.	150 0	Silver	Nil	Nil
Coal	204,317 „ 0 „	244,613 12	„ Ore	Nil	Nil
Copper	50 „ 1 „	4,476 0	Slates	2,524,779 No.	23,173 0
„ Ore	8 „ 17 „	162 0	Slate Slabs	Nil	Nil
Iron, Ore	1 „ 7 „	14 0	Spelter	1 ton 7 cwt.	60 0
„ Pig	6,322 „ 5 „	40,303 0	Sulphur	410 „ 16 „	3,825 0
Kerosene Shale ...	2,795 „ 0 „	8,289 0	Tin (including ingots)	36 „ 5 „	3,445 0
Lead	731 „ 16 „	15,877 0	„ Ore	5 „ 14 „	132 0
„ Ore	187 „ 0 „	1,873 0	Zinc	272 „ 15 „	9,769 0
„ Pig	Nil	Nil			
Lime	19 tons 3 cwt.	93 0		Total	£382,312 12

APPENDIX B.

METALS (OTHER THAN GOLD), MINERALS, AND ORES EXPORTED FROM VICTORIA DURING THE YEAR 1874.

(From Returns furnished by the Honorable the Commissioner of Trade and Customs.)

Article.	Quantity.	Value.	Article.	Quantity.	Value.
		£			£
Antimony	Nil	Nil	Lime	5,238 bushels	791
„ Ore ...	224 tons 7 cwt.	2,136	Metal, Yellow ...	83 tons 14 cwt.	6,244
„ Regulus ...	231 „ 0 „	12,115	Quartz	Nil	Nil
Arsenic	0 „ 12 „	19	Quicksilver	9 bottles	230
Coal	70 „ 0 „	107	Spelter	241 tons	3,459
Coke and Fuel ...	12 „ 11 „	25	Silver	3,428 ozs. 4 dwts.	915
Copper	78 „ 16½ „	7,809	Slates	46,800 No.	610
„ Ore	Nil	Nil	Slate Slabs	Nil	Nil
Iron, Pig	91 tons 12 cwt.	667	Sulphur	23 tons 14 cwt.	306
„ Ore	205 „ 0 „	245	Tin	107 „ 5 „	9,896
Kaolin	Nil	Nil	„ Ore, Black Sand ...	142 „ 14 „	8,433
Kerosene Shale ...	Nil	Nil	Zinc	13 „ 6 „	598
Lead	19 tons 17 cwt.	587			
„ Ore	8 „ 0 „	120		Total	£55,312

NOTE.—The figures in these tables are extracted from the returns published by the Honorable the Commissioner of Trade and Customs. The statements include only raw materials. Thus pig-iron is included, but not bars, rods, plates, or castings; lead and lead ore, but not piping or sheet lead; and so in like manner the others. The returns published by the Customs Department necessarily include all.

The quantities exported include metals, &c., *not the produce of Victoria.*

APPENDIX C.

RETURN SHOWING THE QUANTITY AND VALUE OF KEROSENE OIL IMPORTED INTO AND EXPORTED FROM THIS COLONY DURING THE YEAR 1874.

(From Returns furnished by the Honorable the Commissioner of Trade and Customs.)

Imported.		Exported.	
Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	£ s.		£
123,173 gallons, 193,957 cases, 300 brls.	148,967 2	384,306 gallons	31,862

By Authority: GEORGE SKINNER, Acting Government Printer, Melbourne.